

Case Number:	CM14-0144078		
Date Assigned:	09/12/2014	Date of Injury:	06/02/2010
Decision Date:	10/14/2014	UR Denial Date:	08/20/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	09/05/2014

HOW THE IMR FINAL DETERMINATION WAS MADE

MAXIMUS Federal Services sent the complete case file to an expert reviewer. He/she has no affiliation with the employer, employee, providers or the claims administrator. The expert reviewer is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and is licensed to practice in California. He/she has been in active clinical practice for more than five years and is currently working at least 24 hours a week in active practice. The expert reviewer was selected based on his/her clinical experience, education, background, and expertise in the same or similar specialties that evaluate and/or treat the medical condition and disputed items/services. He/she is familiar with governing laws and regulations, including the strength of evidence hierarchy that applies to Independent Medical Review determinations.

CLINICAL CASE SUMMARY

The expert reviewer developed the following clinical case summary based on a review of the case file, including all medical records:

The injured worker is a 51-year-old male who reported an injury on 06/02/2010; the injured worker was chopping a tree with a chainsaw and the blade became stuck. He picked it up, and kicked it back and cut himself, causing a deep laceration of his left arm. He sustained injuries to his left arm and fingers. Prior treatment history included surgery, medications, psychiatric treatment, and psychological testing. The injured worker has been on several medications Celexa 20 mg, Seroquel 100 mg, Ambien CR, Viibryd, and Wellbutrin. On 10/2012, the injured worker's Seroquel was increased to the 300 mg due to being frustrated, paranoid, and agitated. The injured worker was evaluated on 08/04/2014 and it was documented that the injured worker was seen for psychiatric followup and refill of medications. He continued to take Paxil, Seroquel XR, and Lunesta on an as needed basis for sleep. He denied any suicidal or homicidal ideations. No paranoia. Insight and judgment are fair. Akathasia or EPS. His weight has been stable. He was complaining of pain and numbness around his left forearm and left hand. He had limited sensation with numbness and weakness in the middle of the left hand. He used a cane to walk and presently was not in any physical therapy. He had been complaining of increased anxiety. The provider refilled Paxil 20 mg, Seroquel XR 600 mg, and Lunesta 2 mg and he will followup with the injured worker in 4 to 6 weeks for medication management in support of psychotherapy. Diagnoses included major depressive disorder recurrent. Request for Authorization dated 08/13/2014 was for Seroquel XR 600 mg #30.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

The Final Determination was based on decisions for the disputed items/services set forth below:

Seroquel XR 600mg #30: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines, Integrated Treatment,/Disability Duration Guidelines for Mental Illness and Stress

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Mental Illness & Stress. Quetiapine Seroquel.

Decision rationale: The request for Seroquel XR 600mg #30 is not medically necessary. Per the Official Disability Guidelines (ODG), in regard to atypical antipsychotics that are not recommended as a first line treatment. There is insufficient evidence to recommend atypical antipsychotics (eg, quetiapine, risperidone) for conditions covered in ODG. It was documented that the injured worker that Seroquel has been prescribed for sleep, and this is not the appropriate indication for Seroquel. Additionally, the request that was submitted failed to include frequency and duration of medication. As such, the request for Seroquel XR 600mg #30 is not medically necessary.