

Case Number:	CM14-0149498		
Date Assigned:	09/18/2014	Date of Injury:	02/25/2013
Decision Date:	10/17/2014	UR Denial Date:	08/15/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	09/15/2014

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 Family Medicine and is licensed to practice in North Carolina. 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 claimant had an original date of injury of 2/25/2013. The mechanism of injury was a fall from truck injuring the wrist. Treatment has included arthroscopic surgery, steroid injections, bracing, physical therapy and occupational therapy. Current medications include Percocet. The request is for champion topical cream containing Motrin.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Champion Topical Cream Containing Motrin: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Topical Analgesics Page(s): 111-113.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Section 2 Page(s): 111-112.

Decision rationale: CA MTUS recommends limited use of topical analgesics. There is limited evidence for short-term use of topical NSAID analgesics for osteoarthritis with most benefit seen in use up to 12 weeks but no demonstrated benefit beyond this time period. They are primarily recommended for neuropathic pain with antidepressants and antiepileptics have failed. There is no documentation in the medical records of any intolerance to oral anti-inflammatory

medications or of any neuropathic pain. The use of topical champion cream containing Motrin is not medically indicated.