

Case Number:	CM14-0168004		
Date Assigned:	10/15/2014	Date of Injury:	09/28/2012
Decision Date:	11/18/2014	UR Denial Date:	09/30/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	10/13/2014

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 Emergency Medicine and is licensed to practice in New York. 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 patient is a 44- year-old male who was injured on September 28, 2012. The patient continued to experience pain in his left knee. Physical examination was notable for slightly positive McMurray's test and pain along the medial joint line. Diagnosis was internal derangement of the left knee. Treatment included cortisone injections in the knee. Request for authorization for DNA medicated collection kit was submitted for consideration.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

DNA medicated collection kit: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG): Pain Chapter, Genetic Testing for Potential Opioid Abuse

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Pain, Genetic testing and on Other Medical Treatment Guideline or Medical Evidence: UpToDate: Overview of pharmacogenomics

Decision rationale: Pharmacogenomics is the study of the role of inherited and acquired genetic variation on drug response. In theory, the identification of genetic factors that influence drug

absorption, metabolism, and action at the receptor level should allow for individualized therapy. Several problems in study design have limited the translation of pharmacogenetics into the clinical sphere and studies have not been reproducible. Medical evidence to support the validity genetic testing for drug response is not consistent. Per ODG Genetic testing for Not recommended. While there appears to be a strong genetic component to addictive behavior, current research is experimental in terms of testing for this. Studies are inconsistent, with inadequate statistics and large phenotype range. The request should not be authorized.