

Case Number:	CM14-0093051		
Date Assigned:	07/25/2014	Date of Injury:	04/24/2009
Decision Date:	09/19/2014	UR Denial Date:	05/28/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	06/19/2014

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 Anesthesiology, has a subspecialty in Pain Management 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:

According to the records made available for review, this is a 57-year-old male with a 4/24/09 date of injury. At the time (5/28/14) of request for authorization for urine toxicology, there is documentation of subjective (numbness in the chest, constant aching in the low back, pain in the left hip/thigh) and objective (lumbar spine decreased range of motion) findings, current diagnoses (lumbar spine disc bulge and lumbar spine radiculitis/neuritis NOS), and treatment to date (massage therapy and unspecified medications). There is no documentation of abuse, addiction, or poor pain control and patient under on-going opioid treatment.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Urine Toxicology: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Drug Testing, See Opioids, Criteria for Use.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines On-Going Management Page(s): 78.

Decision rationale: MTUS Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines identifies documentation of abuse, addiction, or poor pain control in patient under on-going opioid treatment, as criteria necessary to support the medical necessity of Urine Drug Screen. Within

the medical information available for review, there is documentation of diagnoses of lumbar spine disc bulge and lumbar spine radiculitis/neuritis NOS. However, there is no documentation of abuse, addiction, or poor pain control and patient under on-going opioid treatment. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for urine toxicology is not medically necessary.