

Case Number:	CM14-0034597		
Date Assigned:	06/20/2014	Date of Injury:	08/24/2012
Decision Date:	01/28/2015	UR Denial Date:	03/05/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/20/2014

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 Dermatologist, 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 enrollee is a 38 year old male with history of invasive melanoma. He is seen routinely for skin exams. There is a destruction of a premalignant (actinic keratosis) charge from 2/18/14 which is in question. It has been denied by the insurer.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Destruction and/or biopsy: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Habif: Clinical Dermatology, 4th ed.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Other Medical Treatment Guideline or Medical Evidence: Nashan D, Meiss F, Muller M. Therapeutic strategies for actinic keratoses--a systematic review. Eur J Dermatol. 2013 Jan-Feb;23(1):14-32.

Decision rationale: The enrollee is a 38 year old male with history of invasive melanoma who was seen by his dermatologist for a routine skin exam. The closest date of service to the billed code in dispute (702 from 2/18/14) is a medical record dated 2/19/14. On that document, there is no record of a destruction of an actinic keratosis being performed. Given that there is no medical documentation of the lesion or its treatment, the request is not medically necessary. Treatment of

actinic keratosis is recommended given that they are premalignant lesions, however the medical record does not support the code billed in this instance.