

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM15-0178180		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	09/18/2015	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	02/19/2007
<b>Decision Date:</b>	10/22/2015	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	09/03/2015
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	09/10/2015

### 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. 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/Service. He/she is familiar with governing laws and regulations, including the strength of evidence hierarchy that applies to Independent Medical Review determinations.

The Expert Reviewer has the following credentials:  
State(s) of Licensure: California, Indiana, New York  
Certification(s)/Specialty: Internal Medicine

### 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 47-year-old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 2-19-07. The injured worker was diagnosed as having lumbar radiculopathy. Treatment to date has included a home exercise program, a transforaminal epidural steroid injection, and medication. The injured worker had been taking Cialis since at least April 2015. Currently, the injured worker complains of erectile dysfunction. The treating physician requested authorization for Cialis 20mg #5. On 9-4-15, the request was non-certified; the utilization review physician noted, "The medical records did not report whether or not the medication was being used or had been effective."

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Cialis 20mg take one daily as needed #5: Upheld**

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Ther Clin Risk Management, 2008 December 4 (6); 1315-1330. Authored by Robert Coward and Culley Carson. Title; Tadalafil in the treatment of erectile dysfunction.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation  
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginfo/meds/a604008.html>.

**Decision rationale:** Pursuant to Medline plus, Cialis 20mg one by mouth as needed #5 is not medically necessary. Tadalafil (Cialis) is used to treat erectile dysfunction (ED, impotence; inability to get or keep an erection), and the symptoms of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH; an enlarged prostate) which include difficulty urinating (hesitation, dribbling, weak stream, and incomplete bladder emptying), painful urination, and urinary frequency and urgency in adult men. Tadalafil (Adcirca) is used to improve the ability to exercise in people with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH; high blood pressure in the vessels carrying blood to the lungs, causing shortness of breath, dizziness, and tiredness). Tadalafil is in a class of medications called phosphodiesterase (PDE) inhibitors. It works to treat erectile dysfunction by increasing blood flow to the penis during sexual stimulation. This increased blood flow can cause an erection. Tadalafil treats PAH by relaxing the blood vessels in the lungs to allow blood to flow more easily. In this case, the injured worker's working diagnosis is lumbar radiculopathy. Date of injury is February 19, 2007. Request authorization is August 27, 2015. According to the progress note dated March 19, 2015, the requesting provider prescribed Cialis. Subjectively, there are no complaints of erectile dysfunction. According to the treatment plan in serial progress notes from March 19, 2015 through August 2015, the documentation states "continue script for Cialis from urologist. Patient was authorized to see urologist as he had complaints of erectile dysfunction". There is no documentation demonstrating objective functional improvement. There is no subjective improvement documented. Based on clinical information in the medical record, peer-reviewed evidence-based guidelines, no documentation demonstrating objective functional improvement and no subjective improvement noted, Cialis 20mg one by mouth as needed #5 is not medically necessary.