

Case Number:	CM15-0063001		
Date Assigned:	04/08/2015	Date of Injury:	08/08/2002
Decision Date:	05/08/2015	UR Denial Date:	03/10/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	04/02/2015

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: Arizona, California
Certification(s)/Specialty: Family Practice

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 62-year-old male, who sustained an industrial injury on August 8, 2002. He was diagnosed with gastritis, arthropathy and colon polyps. The injured worker has a history of ulcers. Treatment included a colonoscopy, proton pump inhibitors, and medication adjustment. Currently, the injured worker complained of abdominal pain. The treatment plan that was requested for authorization included Rabeprazole sodium.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Rabeprazole sodium 20mg #90: Overturned

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 procedure summary - Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs).

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines NSAIDs and PPI Page(s): 68.

Decision rationale: According to the MTUS guidelines, Rabeprazole is a proton pump inhibitor that is to be used with NSAIDs for those with high risk of GI events such as bleeding,

perforation, and concurrent anticoagulation/anti-platelet use. In this case, the claimant has documented gastritis and symptom worsens when not standing. The claimant was on NSAIDs for pain control. The continued use of Rabeprazole is appropriate and medically necessary.