INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

February 22, 2015

IBR Case Number: CB14-0001774  Date of Injury: 02/12/2014
Claim Number:  Date of Application Received: 11/20/2014
Claims Administrator: Assigned Date: 12/8/2014
Provider Name: Disputed Codes: 26727
Employee Name:  

Dear [Provider Name],

MAXIMUS Federal Services has completed the Independent Bill Review (“IBR”) of the above workers’ compensation case. This letter provides you with the IBR Final Determination and explains how the determination was made.

**Final Determination: OVERTURN.** MAXIMUS Federal Services has determined that additional reimbursement is warranted. The Claims Administrator’s determination is reversed and the Claim Administrator owes the Provider additional reimbursement of $250.00 for the review cost and $97.64 in additional reimbursement for a total of $347.64. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of $347.64 within 45 days of the date on this letter per section 4603.2 (2a) of the California Labor Code. The determination of MAXIMUS Federal Services and its expert reviewer is deemed to be the Final Determination of the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers’ Compensation. This determination is binding on all parties. In certain limited circumstances, you can appeal the Final Determination. Appeals must be filed with the Workers’ Compensation Appeals Board within 20 days from the date of this letter. For more information on appealing the final determination, please see California Labor Code Section 4603.6(f).

Sincerely,

Paul Manchester, MD, MPH
Medical Director

cc: [Provider Name]

[Table with IBR information]
DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Pertinent documents reviewed to reach the determination:

- The Independent Bill Review Application
- The original billing itemization
- Supporting documents submitted with the original billing
- Explanation of Review in response to the original bill
- Request for Second Bill Review and documentation
- Supporting documents submitted with the request for second review
- The final explanation of the second review
- Official Medical Fee Schedule
- Negotiated contracted rates:
- National Correct Coding Initiatives
- Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS)

HOW THE IBR FINAL DETERMINATION WAS MADE

MAXIMUS Federal Services Chief Coding Specialist reviewed the case file and researched pertinent coding and billing standards to reach a determination. In some cases a physician reviewer was employed to review the clinical aspects of the care to help make a determination. He/she has no affiliation with the employer, employee, providers or the claims administrator. 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.

ANALYSIS AND FINDING

Based on review of the case file the following is noted:

- **ISSUE IN DISPUTE:** Provider is dissatisfied with reimbursement of code 26727.
- Claims administrator reimbursed $1589.22 indicating on the Explanation of Review “This charge was adjusted to comply with the rate and rules of the contract indicated.”
- Claims administrator submitted a letter of dispute stating “The provider billed services in the amount of $3480.00 and based upon our review, the maximum allowable payment for these services is $1765.80. The bill was then further reduced by 10% due to an existing PPO contracted agreement between Comprehensive Outpatient Surgery Center and Three Rivers Provider Network resulting in a final allowance of $1589.22.”
- Provider submitted a letter stating “Outpatient Surgery Center does not hold PPO contracts with any insurance carrier. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me for clarification.” The letter contains a cc to the claims administrator as well.
- Maximus requested a copy of a PPO contract however, none was received for this review.
- Based on information reviewed, additional reimbursement is warranted for code 26727 per OPPS fee schedule allowance.
The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

**DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE:** Additional reimbursement of code 26727 is recommended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Code</th>
<th>Provider Billed</th>
<th>Plan Allowed</th>
<th>Dispute Amount</th>
<th>Multiple Surgery</th>
<th>Workers’ Comp Allowed Amt.</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26727</td>
<td>$3480.00</td>
<td>$1589.22</td>
<td>$1890.78</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$1686.86</td>
<td>DISPUTED SERVICE: Allow reimbursement $97.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Copy to:

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