Dear [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: UPHOLD.** MAXIMUS Federal Services has determined that no additional reimbursement is warranted. The Claims Administrator’s determination is upheld and the Claim Administrator does not owe the Provider additional reimbursement. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

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:
**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

**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 82486 x 17
- Claims administrator reimbursed $59.12 indicating on the Explanation of Review “The Medically Unlikely Edits (MUE) from CMS has been applied to this procedure code” This denial is incorrect as these are lab charges not physician charges.
- Claims administrator sent in a dispute regarding this claim stating “There is insufficient documentation to substantiate the need for confirmatory testing” and “…the records provided do not indicate a positive result requiring further testing; therefore the chromatographic study (82486) and drug confirmation (80102) are denied.”
- The Provider submitted laboratory results for the CPT code 82486 documenting qualitative test results for the following drug categories: Narcotics/Analgesics; Opiates; Oxycodone; Methadone; Benzodiazepines; Barbiturates; Amphetamines; Tricyclic/Antidepressants; Antidepressants; Neuropathic; and Sedatives/Hypnotics. Chromatography is high complexity testing with qualitative test results. Documentation submitted does not show any qualitative results, only ‘None Detected’ and ‘Detected’. Provider also submitted diagnosis 719.42, joint pain upper arm. A chromatography drug test for arm pain is not warranted.
- Based on information reviewed, no further reimbursement is warranted for code 82486.
The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Additional reimbursement of code 82486 is not recommended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Service: 9/17/2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Laboratory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Code</th>
<th>Provider Billed</th>
<th>Plan Allowed</th>
<th>Dispute Amount</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Multiple Surgery</th>
<th>Workers’ Comp Allowed Amt.</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>82486</td>
<td>$502.52</td>
<td>$59.12</td>
<td>$443.40</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>DISPUTED SERVICE: No further reimbursement is recommended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Copy to:

[Redacted]

Copy to:

[Redacted]