

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

November 7, 2014

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB13-0000618	Date of Injury:	05/22/2012
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	10/18/2013
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	64721		

Dear [REDACTED]

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.

IBR Assigned: 04/30/2014

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 \$335.00 for the review cost and \$399.72 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$734.72. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$734.72 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,

[REDACTED]

Chief Coding Reviewer

cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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: none
- Other: CPT Assistant, Frequently Asked Questions (June 2012, Volume 22, Issue 6, pages 15-16)

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:** Denial of CPT code 64721.
- Based on review of the operative report the carpal tunnel release was performed and was a separate and distinct service.
- Based on review of CPT Assistant, there are instances when code 25115 (flexor tenosynovectomy) can be included with 64721. Therefore allow reimbursement for code 64721.
- Code 64721 has the lowest OMFS allowable amount, therefore the multiple surgery reduction of 50% should be applied to code 64721.
- Reimbursement for the surgical assistant services will be allowed at 10% of the surgeon’s fee since surgical assistance allowed by the Claim Administrator for code 25115.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Reimbursement of code 64721 as listed below. Reimburse a total of \$399.72.

Date of Service: 3/14/2013							
Physician and Surgical Assistant							
Service	Provider	Plan	Dispute	Assist	Multiple	Workers’	Notes

Code	Billed	Allowed	Amount	Surgeon	Surgery	Comp Allowed Amt.	
64721	\$ 726.75	\$ 0	\$ 726.75		50%	\$ 363.38	DISPUTED SERVICE: Reimburse \$363.38.
64721-83	\$ 145.35	\$ 0	\$ 145.35	Allow	50%	\$36.34	DISPUTED SERVICE: Reimburse \$36.34 based on Surgery Ground Rules at 10% of surgeon allowable.

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