

**INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION**

December 16, 2014

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

<b>IBR Case Number:</b>	CB14-0001148	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	04/02/2002
<b>Claim Number:</b>	[Redacted]	<b>Application Received:</b>	08/18/2014
<b>Claims Administrator:</b>	[Redacted]	<b>Assignment Date:</b>	09/19/2014
<b>Provider Name:</b>	[Redacted]		
<b>Employee Name:</b>	[Redacted]		
<b>Disputed Codes:</b>	77003, Q9966, J1030, J2250, J3010, J3490 and J3490		

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.

**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 \$151.65 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$401.65. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.**

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$401.65 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]  
Medical Director

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:
- National Correct Coding Initiatives
- Other: OMFS Physician 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 codes 77003, Q9966, J1030, J2250, J3010, J3490 and J3490.
- Claims Administrator denied CPT 77003 and indicated on the Explanation of Review “The procedure code is disallowed based on CPT rules.”
- CPT 77003 - Fluoroscopic guidance and localization of needle or catheter tip for spine or paraspinal diagnostic or therapeutic injection procedures (epidural or subarachnoid); (For epidural or subarachnoid needle or catheter placement and injection, see 62270-62282, 62310-62319).
- Per Physician’s report submitted, procedure was done for a lumbar epidural steroid injection which does allow fluoroscopic guidance. Therefore, reimbursement of 77003 is warranted.
- Billed codes Q9966, J1030, J2250, J3010, J3490 and J3490 are not separately reimbursed as they have a Status Code ‘E’ - **Excluded from Physician Fee Schedule by regulation.** These codes are for items and/or services that CMS chose to exclude from the fee schedule payment by regulation. No RVUs are shown, and no payment may be made under the fee schedule for these codes. Payment for them, when covered, generally

continues under reasonable charge procedures. Therefore, reimbursement of codes Q9966, J1030, J2250, J3010, J3490 and J3490 is not recommended.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

**DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Based on information reviewed, reimbursement of code 77003 is warranted. Reimbursement of codes Q9966, J1030, J2250, J3010, J3490 and J3490 is not warranted.**

Date of Service: 5/12/2014							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Assist Surgeon	Multiple Surgery	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
77003	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$151.65	N/A	N/A	\$151.65	<b>DISPUTED SERVICE:</b>

Copy to:

[REDACTED]

Copy to:

[REDACTED]