MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.
Independent Bill Review
P.O. Box 138006
Sacramento, CA 95813-8006
Fax: (916) 605-4280

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

October 31, 2014

[redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0000939	**Date of Injury:**	12/31/2011
Claim Number:	[redacted]	**Application Received:**	06/30/2014
Claims Administrator:	[redacted]		
Provider Name:	[redacted]		
Employee Name:	[redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	97799-86		

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 Case Assigned: 07/25/2014

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 $250.00 for the review cost and $5557.50 in additional reimbursement for a total of $5807.50. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of $5807.50 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]

cc: [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: PPO Contract
- National Correct Coding Initiatives
- Other: OMFS Physician Services Guidelines and Ground Rules

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 dissatisfied with reimbursement of code 97799-86
- Provider was reimbursed $213.75 and is seeking additional reimbursement of $5557.50.
- Claims Administrator sent a partial payment indicating on the Explanation of Review: "The charge exceeds the Official Medical Fee Schedule allowance. The charge has been adjusted to the scheduled allowance." Claims Administrator fails to document which Fee Schedule they have based reimbursement on as 97799 is an unlisted code.
- "Functional Restoration Programs are a type of treatment included in the category of interdisciplinary pain programs. Functional Restoration Programs are designed to use medically directed, interdisciplinary pain management approaches geared specifically for patients with chronic disabling occupational musculoskeletal disorders."
- Based on review of the FRP Weekly Progress Report stating the injured worker's treatment for the week, along with the Physical Therapy Progress Report, Physician's Progress Report, Psychological and Behavioral Progress Note which detail the comprehensive and intense pain program this injured worker is completing, procedure code 97799-86 is substantiated as the Provider documented services performed.
- Also included was the Request for Authorization of Medical Treatment for 80 additional hours of Functional Restoration Program documenting Provider's cost at $225.00 an hour.
- Claims Administrator's Approval letter of additional 80 hours dated 04/28/2014 is also noted.
- PPO Contract was reviewed which shows a 5% discount is to be applied.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Based on documentation received, reimbursement of code 97799-86 is warranted for the amount listed below.

Date of Service: 0**2/24/2014 – 02/28/2014**						
[redacted]						
Service Code	**Provider Billed**	**Plan Allowed**	**Dispute Amount**	**Units**	**Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.**	**Notes**
97799-86	$6075.00	$ 213.75	$ 4916.25	27 Hours	$ 5771.25	**DISPUTED SERVICE**: Allow reimbursement of $5557.50

Copy to:

[redacted]

Copy to:

[redacted]