

**MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.**

Independent Bill Review  
P.O. Box 138006  
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Fax: (916) 605-4280



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**INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION**

March 12, 2015

██████████  
██████████  
██████████

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0001885	Date of Injury:	08/21/1987
Claim Number:	██████████	Application Received:	12/08/2014
Claims Administrator:	██████████		
Assigned Date:	1/9/2015		
Provider Name:	████████████████████		
Employee Name:	████████████████████		
Disputed Codes:	97799-86		

Dear ██████████

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 \$5985.00 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$6235.00. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.**

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$6235.00 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: ██████████  
████████████████████

## 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 Discount 5%
- National Correct Coding Initiatives

## 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 97799-86
- Claims administrator reimbursed \$213.75 indicating on the Explanation of Review “Procedure has exceeded the maximum allowed units of service”
- A pre-negotiated fee arrangement was not received for this review. Only the provider’s request for treatment of 97799 x 160 hours at \$225 an hour was received.
- Utilization Review authorized a portion of the request at 80 hours of Functional Restoration Program.
- 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.
- On review of the FRP reports 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
- The Physician’s Report details the injured worker’s medical history, current medications, physical examination with accomplishments including functional strength, range of motion, function movement and lifting, dynamic posture and stabilization, psychological

evaluation, treatment plan and a formal request for authorization, demonstrating that a thorough evaluation was performed on this injured worker

- Based on information reviewed, additional reimbursement of 97799-86 is warranted.
- PPO contract received shows a 5% discount is to be applied.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Additional reimbursement of code 97799-86 is recommended

Date of Service: 6/2/2014 – 6/6/2014							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Multiple Surgery	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
97799-86	\$6525.00	\$213.75	\$5985.00	29	N/A	\$6198.75	<b>DISPUTED SERVICE:</b> Allow reimbursement \$5985.00

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