

**MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.**

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



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**INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION**

April 13, 2015

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0001977	Date of Injury:	11/20/2013
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	12/22/2014
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Assigned Date:	2/20/2015		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	G0453		

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 \$185.80 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$435.80. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.**

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$435.80 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: [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

## 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 G0453.
- Claims administrator reimbursed \$37.16 indicating on the Explanation of Review “The charge for the procedure exceeds the amount indicated in the fee schedule.”
- G0453 - Continuous intraoperative neurophysiology monitoring, from outside the operating room (remote or nearby), per patient, (attention directed exclusively to one patient) each 15 minutes (list in addition to primary procedure).
- Provider billed code G0453 along with 95938, 95939 and 95861.
- General CPT instructions for timed codes indicate that a unit of time is attained when the mid-point is passed. Medicare recognizes this CPT guidance for many timed codes, including G0453. Therefore, physicians may bill for one unit of G0453 if at least 8 minutes of service is provided as long as no more than 4 units of G0453 are billed for each 60 minutes.
- Documentation submitted for review included the Intraoperative Monitoring Report which indicated Physician Supervision Time of Baseline Reading: 16:48 and Time of Closing Reading: 18:24. A total of 1 hour and 36 minutes or 6 units is documented.
- Based on information reviewed, additional reimbursement of G0453 is warranted.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Additional reimbursement of code G0453 is recommended.

Date of Service: 8/12/2014							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Multiple Surgery	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
G0453	\$650.30	\$37.16	\$222.96	6	N/A	\$222.96	<b>DISPUTED SERVICE:</b> Allow reimbursement \$185.80

Copy to:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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