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

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

March 30, 2015

[redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0000028	Date of Injury:	02/01/2001
Claim Number:	[redacted]	Application Received:	01/12/2015
Claims Administrator:	[redacted]		
Assigned Date:	2/3/2015		
Provider Name:	[redacted]		
Employee Name:	[redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	G0431		

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 as Provider has been reimbursed for the disputed code. A total of $250.00 is due for the IBR fee. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of $250.00 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: [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: 10% PPO Discount
- 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 HCPCS code G0431
- Claims administrator reimbursed $21.43 indicating on the Explanation of Review “Based on documentation submitted, the service performed is a Routine Drug Screen. Per CMS the Drug Screen CPTs were changed to G0431 for labs and G0434 for physicians. The service is a PER patient encounter CPT. Refer to CMS.Gov for more info”
- The Provider submitted laboratory results documenting qualitative test results for the following drug categories: Narcotics/Analgesics, Opiates, Oxycodone, Methadone, Benzodiazepines, Barbiturates, Amphetamines, Tricyclic Antidepressants, Antidepressants, Neuropathic, Sedatives/Hypnotics. The Provider conducted drug screening tests utilizing the Chromatography method. The HCPCS code G0431 can be used for any method. The HCPCS code G0431 is reported with only one unit of service regardless of the number of drugs screened. The testing described by G0431 includes all CLIA high complexity urine drug screen testing as well as any less complex urine drug screen testing performed at the same patient encounter. The description of HCPCS code G0431 is "Drug screen, qualitative; multiple drug classes by high complexity test method (e.g. immunoassay, enzyme assay), per patient encounter."
- The drug screen services provided were of high complexity test method. The HCPCS code G0431 criteria has been met based on the documentation submitted by the Provider.

Therefore, the code assignment G0434 and payment made by the Claims Administrator was not correct.

- A 10% PPO discount is to be applied to reimbursement.
- Based on information reviewed, additional reimbursement of G0431 is warranted. Provider received additional payment of $85.71 after the dispute had been filed. As provider has been properly reimbursed for G0431, claims administrator is only responsible for the IBR application fee of $250.00.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Additional reimbursement of code G0431 is recommended.

Date of Service: 7/14/2014							
Physician Services							
Service Code	**Provider Billed**	**Plan Allowed**	**Dispute Amount**	**Units**	**Multiple Surgery**	**Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.**	**Notes**
G0431	$550.00	$21.43 + $85.71 paid after dispute was filed	$528.57	1	N/A	$107.14	**DISPUTED SERVICE**: No further reimbursement is recommended for HCPCS G0431

Copy to:

[redacted]

Copy to:

[redacted]