

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

June 18, 2015

[REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

***Consolidated Review for Multiple Injured Workers.**

IW1 = Injured Worker #1; IW2 = Injured Worker #2; IW3 = Injured Worker #3; IW4 = Injured Worker #4

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0000501	Date of Injury:	(IW1) - 05/19/2006 (IW2) - 03/08/2010 (IW3) - 08/17/2012 (IW4) - 03/27/2013
Claim Numbers:	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Application Received:	03/11/2015
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]	Assignment Date:	04/27/2015
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Dates of Service:	(IW1) - 08/12/2014; (IW2) - 11/17/2014; (IW3) - 10/23/2014; (IW4) 11/06/2014		
Employee Names:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	WC002		

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 \$195.00 for the review cost and \$47.64 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$242.64. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of **\$242.64** within 45 days of the date on this letter per section 4603.2 (2a) of the California Labor Code. The determination

MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.

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



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, M.D., M.P.H.
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

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 seeking remuneration for WC002 Primary Treating Physician Treatment Reports submitted for multiple workers on multiple dates of service.**
- Claims Administrator reimbursement rational:
 - (IW1) - Does not fall under guidelines separately reimbursable report
 - (IW2) - As Above
 - (IW3) - The amount adjusted (to \$0.00) do to bundling and unbundling of service.
 - (IW4) – 1st EOR, Documents requested, 2nd EOR, \$0.00 Payment “Upheld.”
- PR-2 Reports are separately reimbursable **if** the Injured Worker is being seen for current treatment and complaints. DWC states, “The purpose of the 45-day rule in California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 9785(f)(8) is to make sure that in the case of continuing treatment, that the patient’s progress is monitored no less than once every 45 days.” However, “Within a 45-day period, the primary treating physician can bill for as many PR-2’s as are medically necessary.”
- Abstracted information from the PR-2 reports for each date of service revealed the following:
 - (IW1) – Current complaints of neck, bilateral arm and low back pain radiating down to leg.
 - (IW2) – Current complaints of shoulder and bilateral hand pain and depression.

- (IW3) – Necessary discussion regarding patient’s reluctance to discontinue prescribed pain medication and discussion on pain management.
- (IW4) – Current complaints of “aching and stabbing” pain in shoulder.
- Contractual Agreement not available for IBR, EOR’s reflect varying reduction percentages. As such, the OMFS will be utilized to determine reimbursement.
- Based on the aforementioned documentation and guidelines WC002 is supported and reimbursement is warranted for Injured Workers 1, 2, 3 & 4.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: WC002

Date of Service: Multiple							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Assist Surgeon	Units	Workers’ Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
IW1 WC002	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$12.00	N/A	1	\$11.91	Refer to Analysis
IW2 WC002	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$12.00	N/A	1	\$11.91	Refer to Analysis
IW3 WC002	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$12.00	N/A	1	\$11.91	Refer to Analysis
IW4 WC002	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$12.00	N/A	1	\$11.91	Refer to Analysis

Copy to:

██████████
 ██████████
 ██████████

Copy to:

██
 ██
 ██