

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

July 3, 2015

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0000706	Date of Injury:	8/26/1993
Claim Number:	[Redacted]	Application Received:	5/6/2015
Claims Administrator:	[Redacted]		
Date Assigned:	5/28/2015		
Provider Name:	[Redacted]		
Employee Name:	[Redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	99355 and 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 \$111.68 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$306.68. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$306.68 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 denial of codes 99355 and WC002
- Claims Administrator reimbursed code WC002 and then requested payment back stating “Per section 9789.14(A) of the 2014 OMFS Physician Fee Regulations, this treatment report is not separately reimbursable”
- Provider was referred by the Primary physician for a neurologic consultation for the injured worker per report submitted.
- WC002 - (1) Primary Treating Physician's Progress Report (Form PR-2), issued in accordance with section 9785(f), using DWC form PR-2, its narrative equivalent, or letter format where allowed by section 9785
- As provider is not the primary treating physician, billing of code WC002 is inappropriate and does not warrant reimbursement.
- Claims Administrator denied code 99355 x 3 units indicating “The charge was disallowed as the submitted report does not substantiate the service being billed”
- Report submitted documents a total of time spent with the patient as 2 hours and 20 minutes.
- CPT 99215 was billed along with 99354 and 99355.
- 99215 absorbs the first 40 minutes of face-to-face time; 99354 absorbs the first hour of face-to-face time after the evaluation and management time spent; 99355 is for each additional 30 minutes.

- Based on information reviewed, reimbursement of 99355 for 1 unit is warranted.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Reimbursement of code 99355

Date of Service: 2/10/2015							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Multiple Surgery	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
99355	\$335.04	\$0.00	\$335.04	1	N/A	\$111.68	DISPUTED SERVICE: Allow reimbursement \$111.68

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