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## INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

July 13, 2015

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0000826	Date of Injury:	11/23/2011
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	05/21/2015
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Date(s) of service:	02/26/2015		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	ML106-96		

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: UPHOLD. MAXIMUS Federal Services has determined that no additional reimbursement is warranted. The Claims Administrator’s determination is upheld and the Claim Administrator does not owe the Provider additional reimbursement. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.**

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 ML 106-96. Modifier -96 is no longer used in Medical Legal billing and was replaced as modifier -94 for increased services as an Agreed Medical Evaluator.
- Claims Administrator reimbursed \$8250.00 indicating on the Explanation of Review “Payment based on individual pre-negotiated agreement for this specific service”
- Provider was requested to perform services as review of medical records and reports and to prepare a supplemental summary for attorney on a letter dated 1/19/2015.
- The letter submitted does not request the Provider as an Agreed Medical Evaluator.
- Provider’s report submitted is titled “Supplemental QME Psychiatric Report Review of Records”
- Based on information reviewed, additional reimbursement for modifier -94 is not warranted. No further reimbursement is recommended.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Reimbursement of code ML 106-96

Date of Service: 2/26/2015							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Multiple Surgery	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
ML 106-96	\$10312.50	\$8250.00	\$2062.50	132	N/A	\$8250.00	<b>DISPUTED SERVICE:</b> No further reimbursement is recommended

Copy to:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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