
INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

July 22, 2015

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0000906	Date of Injury:	04/29/2004
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	06/04/2015
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Date(s) of service:	10/30/2014		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	99205		

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 \$1308.89 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$1503.89. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$1503.89 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: Contract Agreement
- 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 99205
- Claims Administrator down coded 99205 to a 99204 reimbursing \$191.11 and indicating on the Explanation of Review “99215 recommended as 99214 due to decision making of moderate complexity & detailed exam”. Provider did not bill code 99215 but 99205.
- The Provider was asked to perform a psychiatric consultation and submit a report on the injured worker for the purpose of clearance for surgery.
- Provider’s report titled Psychiatric Evaluation Report for Surgical Clearance was submitted for review. Documentation included total time spent of 7 hours including face-to-face, record review, report preparation and psychological tests performed.
- Provider submitted an RE: Authorization of Services which was faxed to Claims Administrator on 9/8/14. RFA states “We require a minimum payment of \$1500 to provide this type of report. However, this does not include any review of records. Review of records will be an additional \$300/inch...Please indicate your authorization below and fax back to this office...If you have any questions regarding this facsimile, please call this office...”
- Claims Adjuster’s signature was documented on the authorization and dated 9/9/14.
- Pursuant to LC § 5307.11: A health care provider or health facility licensed pursuant to Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code, and a contracting agent, employer, or carrier may contract for reimbursement rates different from those in the fee schedule adopted

