MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.
Independent Bill Review
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MAXIMUS Federal Services

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

May 31, 2016

[redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB16-0000780	Date of Injury:	01/29/2014
Claim Number:	[redacted]	Application Received:	05/09/2016
Assignment Date:	05/27/2016		
Claims Administrator:	[redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	01/25/2016 – 01/25/2016		
Provider Name:	[redacted]		
Employee Name:	[redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	97799-86		

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 $607.50 in additional reimbursement for a total of $802.50. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of **$802.50** 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,

MAXIMUS
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
- Contractual Agreement: 95%

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 additional remuneration for Functional Restoration Evaluation services, billed as Unlisted Procedure Code 97799 -86, for date of service 01/25/20156 – 01/29/2016.**
- The Claims Administrator's reimbursement rational indicates "charge has been adjusted to comply with the rate and rules of the **contract indicated**." (Emphasis added)
- Modifier -86: OMFS "This Modifier is used when prior authorization was received for services that exceed OMFS ground rules."
- OMFS allows for Unlisted Procedure Codes to be reimbursed by "By Report."
- **§ 9789.12.4 (c)** "In determining the value of a By Report procedure, consideration may be given to the value assigned to a comparable procedure or analogous code. The comparable procedure or analogous code should reflect similar amount of resources, such as practice expense, time, complexity, expertise, etc. as required for the procedure performed."
- There is no allowance listed under the OMFS for the billed procedure code 97799 or, more specifically, a Functional Restoration Program Evaluation, and a comparable procedure code does not exist.
- CPT 97799 By Report Code is not subject to MPPR as there is no unit value or conversion factor associated with this By Report Code.

- The Provider's Usual and Customary Fee is presented on RFA dated 10/27/2015 as "$225.00" per hours.
- Authorization for FRP dated 11/09/2015 signed by Utilization and Review Physician Reviewer, "approved" a "previously denied" FRP request - reimbursement amount not reflected on authorization.
- Functional Restoration Program service is authorized meeting the criteria for Modifier -86.
- Recommend reimbursement for 1 unit of 97799-86 representing dates of service 01/25/2016 – 01/29/2016 (5 Days).
- **California State Assembly Bill 1177 amended the Labor Code effective January 1, 2002 to add §5307.11**: 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 and revised pursuant to Section 5307.1. When 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 contract for reimbursement rates different from those in the fee schedule, the medical fee schedule for that health care provider or health facility licensed pursuant to Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code **shall not apply to the contracted reimbursement rates.** Except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 5307.1, the official medical fee schedule shall establish maximum reimbursement rates for all medical services for injuries subject to this division provided by a health care provider or health care facility licensed pursuant to Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code other than those specified in contracts subject to this section.
- The aforementioned Authorization is contractual in nature.
- Partial two page **Contractual Agreement** provided for IBR, **indicates** "95% of Eligible Billed Charges" for "covered services with no assigned value."
- **Based on the aforementioned documentation and guidelines, additional reimbursement is indicated for Unlisted Procedure Code 97799-86.**

The table on page 4 describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: 97799-86

Date of Service: 01/25/2016 – 01/29/2016							
Physician Services							
Service Code	**Provider Billed**	**Plan Allowed**	**Dispute Amount**	**Assist Surgeon**	**Units**	**Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.**	**Notes**
97799 - 86	$6,075.00	$5,163.75	$607.50	N/A	27	$5,771.25	PPO Contract $607.50 Due Provider

Copy to:

[redacted]

[redacted]