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

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

June 7, 2016

[redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB16-0000812	Date of Injury:	04/29/2012
Claim Number:	[redacted]	Application Received:	05/02/2016
Assignment Date:	02/03/2016		
Claims Administrator:	[redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	02/03/2016 – 02/05/2016		
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 $3,165.96 in additional reimbursement for a total of $3,360.96. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of **$3,360.96** 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% Billed Charges

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 02/03/2016 – 02/05/2016 (3 days).**
- The Claims Administrator's reimbursement rational indicates the following: "Recommended Allowance based on functional capacity evaluation," and "contract indicated."
- **Contractual Agreement prov**ided for IBR reflects "95%" of eligible billed charges for procedure codes of no assigned value.
- 97999 is a By Report code; a schedule allowance does not exist and there is no assigned value.
- 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, Functional Restoration Program, 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.

- Functional Restoration Program service authorized as per aforementioned 06/06/2016 addendum, meeting the criteria for Modifier -86.
- Modifier -86: OMFS "This Modifier is used when prior authorization was received for services that exceed OMFS ground rules."
- The Provider's Usual and Customary Fee is presented on RFA dated 01/20/2016 as "$225.00/hour."
- Authorization determined 02/05/2016 indicates the following "modified" approval dates:
    - 02/05/2015-03/05/2016
- IBR Authorization request to Provider for dates of services in question requested 06/06/2016; E-mail confirmation received 06/06/2016. Above aforementioned 02/05/2016 authorization received with the following addendum:
    - "approval dates corrected to reflect 01/13/16-02/09/2016" signed by unknown representative from unknown party on "06/06/2016."
- Opportunity to dispute Eligibility communicated with the Claims Administrator on 05/17/2016; response not yet received.
- **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.
- **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: 02/03/2016 – 02/05/2016						
Physician Services						
Service Code	**Provider Billed**	**Plan Allowed**	**Dispute Amount**	**Units**	**Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.**	**Notes**
97799 -86	$2,430.00	$296.79	**$3,645.00**	3	$3,462.75	PPO Contract $3,165.96 Due Provider

Copy to:

[redacted]

[redacted]