

MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.

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



INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

December 1, 2014

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0000053	Date of Injury:	05/30/2013
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	01/13/2014
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	26145 (x9)		

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.

IBR assigned: 5/7/2014.

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,

[REDACTED]
Chief Coding Reviewer

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: none
- National Correct Coding Initiatives, Hospital APC version 19.3
- Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS)
- Other: American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Complete Global Service Data

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:** Denial of CPT code 26145 (9 units) the Claims Administrator.
- Based on the NCCI edits, there are no suspect code sets.
- CPT code 26145 is defined as a radical tenosynovectomy and the operative report documentation does not substantiate this procedure. The patient had a carpal tunnel release which is assigned CPT code 64721.
- The AAOS guidelines for CPT code 64721 include tenosynovectomy of flexor tendons. CPT code 26145 should not be reported separately. This service was appropriately denied.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Deny CPT code 26145 (9 units).

Date of Service: 10/23/2013						
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Mult Surg	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes

26145 (9 units)	\$ 12828.80	\$ 0.00	\$ 5940.72	50%	\$ 0.00	DISPUTED SERVICE: Deny as not substantiated.
64721	\$ 3000.00	\$ 1497.54	\$ 0.00	100%	Not in Dispute	Service not in dispute

Copy to:

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Copy to:

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]