

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 23, 2014

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0001375	Date of Injury:	02/03/1998
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	09/22/2014
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]	Assignment Date:	10/29/2014
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	97530-59 x 2 units		

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,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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
- National Correct Coding Initiatives
- Other: OMFS Physician Services

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 denial of CPT code 97530-59 for date of service 06/24/2014.
- Claims Administrator denied code 97530-59. Provider states the denial mentioned included: “No separate payment was made because the value of the service was included within the value of another service performed on the same day.”
- Generally CPT codes 97140 and 97530 are not billed together. However, pursuant to CPT Coding Guidelines, if billed with a Modifier 59, Distinct Procedural Service, and if documentation is submitted supporting the reason for the necessity of the code, then procedure billed may be permitted.
- 97140 and 97530 are time based codes. A modifier may be utilized to unbundle time based code pairs if the time elements for the procedures in question are separately identifiable in terms of time or sequential.
- Documentation indicates the date of exercises and the type of exercises performed, however, the documentation does not indicate “begin” and “end” times for any of the sessions for the dates of service in question.
- 97530 documentation is not available for this IBR as such, determining if the procedures, 97530 and 97140, where performed “separately” or sequentially could not be established.
- Provider failed to submit the documentation necessary to support CPT 97530-59 on date of service 06/24/2014.
- Based on information reviewed, Claims Administrator was correct to deny CPT code 97530-59. Therefore, no reimbursement is recommended.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Reimbursement of code 97530-59 is not warranted.

Date of Service: 6/24/2014							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Assist Surgeon	Units	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
97530 59	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	N/A	2	\$0.00	DISPUTED SERVICE: No reimbursement recommended.
97140	\$50.00	\$29.93	\$0.00	N/A	N/A	Not in Dispute	Service not in dispute

National Correct Coding Initiative information:

File	Column 1	Column 2	Modifier
Physician Version Number: 20.1	97140	97530	Allowed

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