

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

October 24, 2014

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0000728	Date of Injury:	12/12/2009
Claim Number:	[Redacted]	Application Received:	5/12/2014
Claims Administrator:	[Redacted]		
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.

IBR Case Assigned: 7/2/2014

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 \$250.00 for the review cost and \$2100.50 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$2350.50. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$2350.50 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 30 days from the date of this letter. For more information on appealing the final determination, please see California Labor Code Section 4610.6(h).

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: PPO Contract
- National Correct Coding Initiatives
- Other: OMFS Physician Services Guidelines and Ground Rules

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 dissatisfied with reimbursement of code 97799-86
- Provider was reimbursed \$249.50 and is seeking additional reimbursement of \$2101.50.
- Claims Administrator sent a partial payment in the amount of \$249.50 indicating on the Explanation of Review: “The charge exceeds the Official Medical Fee Schedule allowance. The charge has been adjusted to the scheduled allowance” and “The Fee Schedule does not include a value for the procedure code billed. An allowance has been made which is based on charges for similar/comparable services.” Claims Administrator based reimbursement on CPT code 99499 which is another unlisted By Report code.
- Based on review of the Physician’s Initial Evaluation which details the injured worker’s medical history, current medications, physical examination including functional strength, range of motion, function movement and lifting, dynamic posture and stabilization, psychological evaluation, treatment plan and a formal request for authorization, procedure code 97799-86 is substantiated as the Provider documented services performed.
- Documents reviewed included the Physician Initial Evaluation, detailed FRP Musculoskeletal Evaluation and Psychological and Behavioral Evaluation

- Also included was the Request for Authorization of Medical Treatment for an Initial Interdisciplinary Evaluation documenting Provider's cost at \$2500.00.
- Claims Administrator's Approval letter of Functional Restoration Evaluation dated 07/11/2013 was reviewed. No mention of CPT code 97799-86 being changed to 99499 was reported.
- PPO Contract was received which notes a 6% discount is to be applied.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Based on documentation received, reimbursement of code 97799-86 is warranted for the amount listed below.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

Date of Service: 08/07/2013						
[REDACTED]						
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
97799-86	\$ 2500.00	\$ 249.50	\$ 2101.50	1	\$ 2350.00	DISPUTED SERVICE: Allow reimbursement of \$2100.50

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