

MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.

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



INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

January 23, 2015

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0001626	Date of Injury:	06/23/2011
Claim Number:	[Redacted]	Application Received:	10/27/2014
Claims Administrator:	[Redacted]	Assignment Date:	12/10/2014
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: 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]
Medical Director

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

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 full remuneration for Functional Restoration services, billed as Unlisted Physical Medicine Procedure Code 97799-86 for date of service 07/07/2014-07/10/2014.**
- The Claims Administrator reimbursement rational: “No more than 4 Physical Modalities and/or Procedures May be Reimbursed in one visit,” and “Reimbursement for Physical Medicine procedures, modalities, including Chiropractic Manipulation and Acupuncture Codes are limited to 60 minutes per visit without Prior Authorization Pursuant to Physical Medicine Rule 1(C).”
- CMS 1500 form Reflects the following:
 - i. 97799 Unlisted Physical Medicine Procedure
 - ii. Modifier -86 OMFS Modifier “utilized 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. Additionally, a code accurately reflecting a Functional Restoration Program’s RVU’s do not exist at this time.
- IBR patient visit documentation includes the following:
 - i. Functional Capacity Restoration Program report for dates of service 07/07/2014 – 07/10/2014.

ii. Notice of Certification for referring to “DWC FRA form dated 04/10/2014,” labeled as “Attachment B.”

- Attachment B reflects the following statement from the Claims Administrator: “This reviewer recommends certifying the request for the evaluation at the functional Restoration Program to see if the patient is a good candidate for the program,” with authorization valid for “12 months from date of decision.”
- The Functional Capacity Restoration Report for dates of service 07/07/2014 – 07/10/2014 reflects “week 2” of the program and the initial evaluation referenced in the Claims Administrator’s Certification for Services dated 04/10/2014.
- IBR unable to recommend allowances for services that exceed the OMFS without reviewing the corresponding authorization.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Based on the aforementioned documentation and guidelines, additional reimbursement cannot be recommended for 97799-86.

Date of Service: 07/07/2014-07/10/2014							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Assist Surge on	Units	Workers’ Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
97799	\$5,400	\$873.00	\$4,257.00	N/A	24	\$873.00	Refer to Analysis

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