

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

February 17, 2015

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0001731	Date of Injury:	04/30/1998
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	11/17/2014
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Assigned Date:	12/12/2014		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	99205-25, 99354		

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 \$250.00 for the review cost and \$0.00 (provider has been reimbursed) in additional reimbursement for a total of \$250.00. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$250.00 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,

Paul Manchester, MD, MPH
Medical Director

cc: [REDACTED]
Division of Workers’ Compensation (DWC) Medical Unit

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:
- National Correct Coding Initiatives

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 reimbursement of code 99205-25 and denial of code 99354.
- Claims administrator made a partial payment of \$125.39 indicating on the Explanation of Review “After review of the bill and the medical record, this service is best described by 99203. Submitted documentation did not meet the 3 key components required for 99205. Lacking a comprehensive history, a comprehensive physical examination and a medical decision making of high complexity.”
- Claims administrator denied code 99354 indicating on the Explanation of Review “Documentation doesn’t support prolonged services”
- Claims administrator submitted a letter indicating they performed a second bill review and submitted reimbursement of \$114.35 for code 99354 and \$112.28 for code 99205 to provider.
- Based on information reviewed, provider has been reimbursed for full payment of code 99354 and 99205-25, no additional reimbursement is recommended. Claims administrator does owe provider reimbursement of IBR application fee of \$250.00.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Reimbursement of codes 99205-25 and 99354 is warranted.

Date of Service: 8/13/2014							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Multiple Surgery	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
99205-25	\$275.00	\$125.39	\$149.61	1	N/A	\$237.67	DISPUTED SERVICE: Claims administrator sent extra payment of \$112.28. No further reimbursement is recommended.
99354	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	1	N/A	\$114.35	DISPUTED SERVICE: Claims administrator sent payment of \$114.35. No further reimbursement is recommended.

Copy to:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Copy to:

Division of Workers' Compensation Medical Unit
1515 Clay Street, 18th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612