

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

March 2, 2015

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB14-0001825	Date of Injury:	10/07/2008
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	11/25/2014
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Date(s) of service:	08/04/2014 – 08/04/2014		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED].		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	ML-104-94		

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,

Paul Manchester, MD, MPH
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
- Official Medical Fee Schedule
- Negotiated contracted rates:
- National Correct Coding Initiatives
- Other: §9795 Reasonable Level of Fees for Medical-Legal Expenses

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 ML 104-94.
- Claims administrator reimbursed \$4875.00 for ML 104 indicating on the Explanation of Review “Modifier is not appropriate with billed services”
- Modifier -94 Evaluation and medical-legal testimony performed by an Agreed Medical Evaluator. Where this modifier is applicable, the value of the procedure is modified by multiplying the normal value by 1.25.
- Documentation submitted included a request by the Law Offices for “the Panel Qualified Medical Examiner (PQME).”
- Claims administrator reimbursed provider for the 78 units billed of ML 104.
- Nothing received for this review shows that provider was requested as an Agreed Medical Evaluator. Therefore, no further reimbursement is warranted.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Additional reimbursement of code ML 104-94 is recommended.

Date of Service: 8/4/2014							
Medical Legal Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Multiple Surgery	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
ML 104-94	\$6093.75	\$4875.00	\$1218.75	78	N/A	\$0.00	DISPUTED SERVICE: No reimbursement recommended.

Copy to:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Copy to:

[REDACTED]
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