

## INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

September 26, 2015

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

|                       |                                      |                       |            |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| IBR Case Number:      | CB15-0001471                         | Date of Injury:       | 06/20/2013 |
| Claim Number:         | [REDACTED]                           | Application Received: | 08/28/2015 |
| Claims Administrator: | [REDACTED]                           |                       |            |
| Date(s) of service:   | 02/24/2015                           |                       |            |
| Provider Name:        | [REDACTED]                           |                       |            |
| Employee Name:        | [REDACTED]                           |                       |            |
| Disputed Codes:       | 99215 (downcoded to 99214) and G6040 |                       |            |

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 \$195.00 for the review cost and \$17.64 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$212.64. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.**

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$212.64 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]  
[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

## 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 99215 and denial of HCPCS G6040
- Claims Administrator down coded 99215 to 99214 indicating on the Explanation of Review “changed from 99215, to better reflect services rendered”
- 99215 - Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient, which requires at least 2 of these 3 key components: A comprehensive history; A comprehensive examination; Medical decision making of high complexity.
- Abstracted from the Primary Treating Physician Progress Report (PR-2) is a detailed history and exam along with a high complexity medical decision-making.
- Documentation supports a level 99214 evaluation and management code which Claims Administrator did reimburse.
- Reimbursement of 99215 is not warranted.
- Pursuant to Labor Code section 5307.1(g)(2), the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers’ Compensation orders that the pathology and clinical laboratory fee schedule portion of the Official Medical Fee Schedule (OMFS) contained in title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 9789.50, has been adjusted to conform to the changes to the Medicare payment system that were adopted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for calendar year 2013. Effective for services rendered on or after January 1, 2013, the maximum reasonable fees for pathology and laboratory services

