

MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.

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



INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

September 30, 2015

██████████
██
██

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0001540	Date of Injury:	07/23/2014
Claim Number:	██████████	Application Received:	09/03/2015
Claims Administrator:	██		
Date(s) of service:	07/06/2015 – 07/09/2015		
Provider Name:	██		
Employee Name:	██		
Disputed Codes:	99499		

Dear ██████████

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 \$0.00(Provider has been reimbursed) in additional reimbursement for a total of \$195.00. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of **\$195.00** 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, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Director

cc: ██████████
██

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

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 additional remuneration for Functional Restoration Evaluation services, billed as Unlisted Evaluation and Management Procedure Code 99499 for dates of service 07/06/2015 – 07/09/2015.**
- Claims Administrator reimbursed with the following rationale: “This charge was adjusted to comply with the rate and rules of the contract indicated”
- **Modifier -86:** OMFS Modifier is used when prior authorization was received for services that exceed OMFS ground rules.
- Authorization signed by Claims Administrator on 07/08/2015
- CMS1500 reflects Modifier – 86 appended to Unlisted Procedure Code, meeting the 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 or comparable code listed under the OMFS for service billed with procedure code 99499 or, more specifically, a Functional Restoration Program; a CPT Code has yet to be formulated for this comprehensive program. As such, a contractual agreement or the OMFS will dictate the level of reimbursement. Authorization signed by Claims Administrator on 07/08/2015 is contract in nature.

- Based on guidelines and documentation reviewed, reimbursement for 99499 is warranted.
- Claims Administrator’s letter dated September 28, 2015 states a reimbursement in the amount \$1585.00 was sent to Provider on September 22, 2015. As Provider has been reimbursed in full, Claims Administrator is responsible for the IBR application fee of \$195.00.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Based on the aforementioned documentation and guidelines, reimbursement is warranted for 99499

Date of Service: 07/06/2015 – 07/09/2015							
Physician Services							
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Assist Surgeon	Units	Workers’ Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
99499	\$4530.00	\$2944.50 (\$1585.00 paid after dispute was filed)	\$1585.00	N/A	1	\$4530.00	\$195 IBR application fee is due to Provider.

Copy to:

██████████
 ██████████
 ██████████

Copy to:

██
 ██
 ██