

MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.

Independent Bill Review
P.O. Box 138006
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Fax: (916) 605-4280



INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

October 16, 2015

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0001671	Date of Injury:	11/16/2010
Claim Number:	[REDACTED]	Application Received:	09/21/2015
Claims Administrator:	[REDACTED]		
Date(s) of service:	05/13/2015		
Provider Name:	[REDACTED]		
Employee Name:	[REDACTED]		
Disputed Codes:	96118-59		

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 \$1,383.99 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$1,578.99. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$1,578.99 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
- Negotiated contracted rates: 10% PPO Discount
- 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 denial of code 96118-59.
- Claims Administrator denied code indicating on the Explanation of Review “CCI: Standards of Medical/Surgical Practice” and “included within the value of another service performed on the same day”
- RFA dated 12/09/2014 documents CPT codes 99205, 99354, 99358, 96118 and WC005.
- As a pair code does exist between codes 96118 and 99205, Provider appended modifier -25 to 96118. Modifier -25: Significant, separately identifiable evaluation and management service by the same physician on the same day of a procedure or other service.
- Per NCCI Edits, status indicator column shows ‘1’ which states that if an approved modifier is appended to the column ‘2’ code, and documentation is submitted to support the billed code, then the edit may be overridden.
- Modifiers that may be used under appropriate clinical circumstances to bypass an NCCI PTP edit include: Anatomic modifiers: E1-E4, FA, F1-F9, TA, T1-T9, LT, RT, LC, LD, RC, LM, RI; Global surgery modifiers: 24, 25, 57, 58, 78, 79; Other modifiers: 27, 59, 91, XE, XS, XP, XU
- Provider appended modifier -25 which is one of the approved modifiers.
- CPT 96118 - Neuropsychological testing (eg, Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychological Battery, Wechsler Memory Scales and Wisconsin Card Sorting Test), per hour of the

psychologist's or physician's time, both face-to-face time administering tests to the patient and time interpreting these test results and preparing the report

- Report dated June 12, 2015 titled Comprehensive Initial Neuropsychological Evaluation Report, documents “evaluation consisted of 2 hours of face-to-face interview with the patient and 13 hours of testing, scoring and interpretation.” Pages 6 & 7 of Provider’s report documents tests administered.
- Documentation submitted supports billed code 96118.
- Based on information reviewed, reimbursement of 96118 is warranted.
- EOR received reflects a 10% PPO discount is to be applied to reimbursement.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Reimbursement of code 96118-25

Date of Service: 05/13/2015						
Physician Services						
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Workers’ Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
96118	\$1915.94	\$0.00	\$1915.94	13	\$1383.99	DISPUTED SERVICE: Allow reimbursement \$1383.99

National Correct Coding Initiative information:

File	Column 1	Column 2	Modifier Allowed?
Physician Version Number: 21.1	99205	96118	Yes

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