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

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

October 30, 2015

[redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0001803	Date of Injury:	01/18/1993
Claim Number:	[redacted]	Application Received:	10/05/2015
Claims Administrator:	[redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	04/16/2015		
Provider Name:	[redacted]		
Employee Name:	[redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	G0431		

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 additional $80.75 for a total of $275.75 is due for the IBR fee. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of $275.75 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]

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: 15% 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 reimbursement of HCPCS code G0431.
- Claims administrator reimbursed $20.19 indicating on the Explanation of Review “This code was assigned as the Provider billed using an invalid procedure code”
- The Provider submitted laboratory results documenting qualitative test results for the following drug categories: Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cocaine, Methadone, Opiates, Oxycodone, Ecstasy, Phencyclidine, Ethyl Alcohol and Creatinine. The Provider conducted drug screening tests utilizing the Chromatography method. The HCPCS code G0431 can be used for any method. The HCPCS code G0431 is reported with only one unit of service regardless of the number of drugs screened. The testing described by G0431 includes all CLIA high complexity urine drug screen testing as well as any less complex urine drug screen testing performed at the same patient encounter. The description of HCPCS code G0431 is "Drug screen, qualitative; multiple drug classes by high complexity test method (e.g. immunoassay, enzyme assay), per patient encounter."
- The drug screen services provided were of high complexity test method. The HCPCS code G0431 criteria has been met based on the documentation submitted by the Provider. Therefore, the code assignment G0434 and payment made by the Claims Administrator was not correct.
- Based on information reviewed, additional reimbursement of G0431 is warranted.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Additional reimbursement of code G0431 is recommended.

Date of Service: **04/16/2015**							
Physician Services							
Service Code	**Provider Billed**	**Plan Allowed**	**Dispute Amount**	**Units**	**Multiple Surgery**	**Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.**	**Notes**
G0431	$550.00	$20.19	$98.56	1	N/A	$100.94	**DISPUTED SERVICE:** Allow reimbursement $80.75 per PPO contract.

Copy to:

[redacted]

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