

MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.

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



INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

December 2, 2015

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0002078	Date of Injury:	06/24/2014
Claim Number:	[Redacted]	Application Received:	11/12/2015
Assignment Date:	November 30, 2015		
Claims Administrator:	[Redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	01/17/2015 – 01/17/2015		
Provider Name:	[Redacted]		
Employee Name:	[Redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	99204 and WC007-30		

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 \$348.79 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$543.79. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of **\$543.79** 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: [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
- OMFS

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 remuneration for 99204 New Patient Evaluation service and WC007 -30 QME/AME Requested Consultation Reports, for date of service 01/17/2015.**
- The Claims Administrator denied service in full stating, “Claim Settled, no open medical treatment allowed.”
- Communication from Claims Administrator, dated December 2, 2014, to referring Provider reflects status as “Agreed Medical Examiner,” requested by Claims Administrator to perform Med-Legal Evaluation with the authorization to “complete **any testing** reasonably necessary to complete your evaluation.” **Accepted body part**, “lower back.” **Denied body parts** are the Left Hip, Left Leg, and Left Knee.” **Indicating that an Open Claim existed at the time of the AME examination.**
- Submitted referral from AME (referring Provider) to Provider indicates the following stamped request:
 - EMG/NCV and Neurodiagnostic testing and Consultation Report of Bilateral Lower Ext.
- Although the referral from the AME is stamped to include “and Consultation and Report,” **only the EMG/NCV testing**, in accordance with the AME acknowledgment letter, **was authorized** by the Claims Administrator.
- Referrals for Consultations are not indicated on the AME request from the Claims Administrator.
- Copies of the actual EMG/NCV studies were not submitted for IBR and a CPT Code for the approved testing cannot be extrapolated from the report. Although EMG needle services are addressed in the dictated report, the testing results are necessary to ensure full PC/TC RVU compliance in accordance with a correlating EMG/NCV CPT code.
- **November 30, 2015, Communication from the Claims Administrator indicates acceptance of 99204-25 and WC007-30**, in the form of an EOR, DCN # 5321300580081, in the amount of **\$348.79**. The following is noted on the EOR.
 - Review Date: 11/16/15 -11/17 2015
 - Check Number Not Indicated
 - Pay Auth: **N** (indicating the **payment has yet to be authorized**)
- **Based on the aforementioned November 30, 2015 EOR, reimbursement is warranted for 99204 & WC007-30.**

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

