

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 16, 2015

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0002135	Date of Injury:	01/12/2015
Claim Number:	[Redacted]	Application Received:	11/20/2015
Claims Administrator:	[Redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	07/16/2015, 07/20/2015, 07/27/2015, 07/29/2015 & 07/30/2015		
Provider Name:	[Redacted]		
Employee Name:	[Redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	97530		

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 \$240.84 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$435.84. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of \$435.84 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: 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 seeking remuneration of CPT code 97530-59 for dates of service 07/16/2015, 07/20/2015, 07/27/2015, 07/29/2015 & 07/30/2015.
- Provider billed code 97530-59 along with CPT 97140 which was reimbursed.
- Claims Administrator denied codes and indicated on the Explanation of Review “included within the value of another service performed on the same day.”
- NCCI edits state that generally 97530 and 97140 are not reported together. However, Modifier Indicator column shows ‘1’ which states if the appropriate modifier is appended to the correct code, and proper documentation is supporting the code, then the NCCI edit may be overridden.
- 97530 and 97750 are both time based codes each 15 minutes.
- Pursuant to Labor Code section 5307.27, MTUS shall address, at a minimum, “the frequency, duration, intensity, and appropriateness of all treatment procedures and modalities commonly performed in workers’ compensation cases.”
- Provider submitted documentation for each date of service which includes time spent for each service performed. Documentation supports billed code for on all dates of service. Therefore, reimbursement of 97530 is warranted.
- EOR received reflects a PPO discount of 15% to be applied to reimbursement.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Reimbursement of code 97530-59 is warranted.

Date of Service: 07/16/2015, 07/20/2015, 07/27/2015, 07/29/2015 & 07/30/2015						
Physician Services						
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
97530 for DOS 7/16, 7/20 and 7/30	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	3	\$166.74	\$166.74 Due to Provider
97530 for DOS 7/27 and 7/29	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	2	\$74.10	\$74.10 Due to Provider

National Correct Coding Initiative information:

File	Column 1	Column 2	Modifier
Physician Version Number: 21.2 7/1/2015 – 9/30/2015	97140	97530	Allow Modifier

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