

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

August 24, 2015

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0001180	Date of Injury:	12/16/2014
Claim Number:	[Redacted]	Application Received:	07/22/2015
Assignment Date:	08/11/2015		
Claims Administrator:	[Redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	01/19/2015 – 01/19/2015		
Provider Name:	[Redacted]		
Employee Name:	[Redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	99213-57 and 99354		

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 \$199.34 in additional reimbursement for a total of \$394.34. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of **\$394.34** 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 additional remuneration for 99213 - 57 Established Patient Evaluation and Management service and 99354 Prolonged Service with face-to-face contact performed on 01/19/2014.**
- The Claims Reimbursement denied service requesting “supporting documentation.”
- Opportunity to Dispute Eligibility sent to Claims Administrator on 07/23/2015: response not yet received.
- Contractual Agreement not presented for IBR; OMFS will be utilized to determine reimbursement.
- Modifier -57 Decision for Surgery on or before surgical date. Surgical Date 1/22/2015 – Modifier -57 not relevant.
- Progress note, dated 01/19/2015, reflecting number “83268” reflects counseling of Injured Worker for hand. During encounter Injured Worker opted for “1/22/2015” hand surgery. Counseling time entered as “55” minutes, with bulleted discussions “A” through “E,” hand written by Provider.
- 99354 prolonged service time indicator is 1st hour.
- 99213 time indicator is 15 min, moderate to low complexity. Documentation indicates counseling time/ topics of discussion exceeded 15 min and more than 50% of visit time devoted to counseling.
 - 15 min (-) 55 min total = 40 min remaining & eligible for 99354
- **Based on the aforementioned documentation and guidelines, reimbursement is warranted for 99213-57 & 99213.**

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: 9213-57 & 99354

Date of Service: 01/19/2015 Physical Medicine						
Service Code	Provider Billed	Plan Allowed	Dispute Amount	Units	Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.	Notes
99213 - 57	\$84.00	\$0.00	\$89.00	1	\$84.00	Refer to Analysis
99354	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$175.00	1	\$114.35	Refer to Analysis

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