MAXIMUS FEDERAL SERVICES, INC.
Independent Bill Review
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MAXIMUS Federal Services

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

January 7, 2016

[redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0002195	Date of Injury:	10/14/2014
Claim Number:	[redacted]	Application Received:	11/30/2015
Claims Administrator:	[redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	08/12/2015 – 08/12/2015		
Provider Name:	[redacted]		
Employee Name:	[redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	26145 x 9		

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 $2,798.55 in additional reimbursement for a total of $2,993.55. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of **$2,993.55** 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]

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 $2,798.64 in additional remuneration for 26145 x 9 units performed on 08/12/2015.**
- The Claims Administrator's reimbursement rational indicates "fee schedule" and "contract" allowance.
- Services submitted on UB-04, Place of service "831."
- Opportunity to Dispute Eligibility communicated to Claims Administrator on 12/15/2015; response not yet received.
- Submitted contractual agreement contains "lesser of" language relative to 100 % OMFS and 80% of billed charges.
- Operative note justifies CPT 26145 Tendon excision palm/finger as incision began in palm with additional procedures performed on "9 flexor tendons."
- OMFS is the 'lesser of' reimbursement.
- **Based on the aforementioned documentation and guidelines, reimbursement is indicated for 26145 x 9.**

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: 26145 x 9

Date of Service: 08/12/2015 Ambulatory Services						
Service Code	**Provider Billed**	**Plan Allowed**	**Dispute Amount**	**Units**	**Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.**	**Notes**
26145	$11,407.64	$3,499.29	$2,798.64	9	$6,297.84	**$2,798.55 Due Provider Refer to Analysis**

Copy to:

[redacted]

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