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

INDEPENDENT BILLING REVIEW FINAL DETERMINATION

January 7, 2015

[redacted]

IBR Case Number:	CB15-0002273	Date of Injury:	09/19/1988
Claim Number:	[redacted]	Application Received:	12/14/2015
Claims Administrator:	[redacted]		
Date(s) of service:	09/14/2015		
Provider Name:	[redacted]		
Employee Name:	[redacted]		
Disputed Codes:	64493-50		

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 $438.95 in additional reimbursement for a total of $633.95. A detailed explanation of the decision is provided later in this letter.

The Claim Administrator is required to reimburse the Provider a total of $633.95 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: 90% PPO Reimbursement
- National Correct Coding Initiatives
- Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS)

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 code 64493-50
- Claims administrator reimbursed $878.25 indicating on the Explanation of Review "This service was reviewed in accordance with your contract"
- Utilization Review letter dated August 18, 2015 documents "Certify L2/3 and L3/4 bilateral lumbar medial branch blocks."
- For services rendered on or after September 1, 2014: APC relative weight x adjusted conversion factor x 1.212 workers' compensation multiplier, pursuant to Section 9789.30(aa). See Section 9789.39(b) for the APC relative weight by date of service.
- Provider's Operative Report documents bilateral injections and submitted code 64493 with a modifier -50. Modifier -50 supports the bilateral procedure and is reimbursed an increase of 150% of the fee schedule of a single code.
- Opportunity to Dispute Letter was sent to Claims Administrator on 12/15/2015. A response from Claims Administrator was not received for this review.
- Based on information reviewed, additional reimbursement is warranted for code 64493-50.
- Provider states a 10% PPO discount is to be applied to reimbursement.

The table below describes the pertinent claim line information.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUE IN DISPUTE: Additional reimbursement of code 64493-50 is recommended

Date of Service: 09/14/2015					
Service Code	**Provider Billed**	**Plan Allowed**	**Dispute Amount**	**Workers' Comp Allowed Amt.**	**Notes**
64493-50	$5680.50	$878.25	$438.95	$1317.20	**$438.95 Due to Provider**

Copy to:

[redacted]

Copy to:

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