



Texas Department of Insurance

Division of Workers' Compensation

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48

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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name and Address

NIX HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
414 NAVARRO NO 1720
SAN ANTONIO TX 78205

Respondent Name

Freestone Insurance Co

Carrier's Austin Representative Box

Box Number 19

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-13-1708-01

MFDR Date Received

March 6, 2013

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "DRG 042 per inpatient pricer 13151.79 times 143 percent is 18807.06 For total expected reimbursement due of \$18807.06, creating an underpayment of \$248.33."

Amount in Dispute: \$248.33

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: Written acknowledgement of medical fee dispute received however, no position submitted.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
June 28 – 29, 2012	Inpatient Hospital Surgical Services	\$248.33	\$248.33

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving a medical fee dispute.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.404 sets out the guidelines for reimbursement of hospital facility fees for inpatient services.
3. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
 - W1 – Workers Compensation State Fee Schedule Adjustment

Issues

1. Were the disputed services subject to a specific fee schedule set in a contract between the parties that

complies with the requirements of Labor Code §413.011?

2. Which reimbursement calculation applies to the services in dispute?
3. What is the maximum allowable reimbursement for the services in dispute?
4. Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services?

Findings

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.404(e) states that: "Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, regardless of billed amount, reimbursement shall be:
 - (1) the amount for the service that is included in a specific fee schedule set in a contract that complies with the requirements of Labor Code §413.011; or
 - (2) if no contracted fee schedule exists that complies with Labor Code §413.011, the maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR) amount under subsection (f) of this section, including any applicable outlier payment amounts and reimbursement for implantables."

No documentation was found to support the existence of a contractual agreement between the parties to this dispute; therefore the MAR can be established under §134.404(f).

2. §134.404(f) states that "The reimbursement calculation used for establishing the MAR shall be the Medicare facility specific amount, including outlier payment amounts, determined by applying the most recently adopted and effective Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) reimbursement formula and factors as published annually in the Federal Register. The following minimal modifications shall be applied.
 - (1) The sum of the Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount and any applicable outlier payment amount shall be multiplied by:
 - (A) 143 percent; unless
 - (B) a facility or surgical implant provider requests separate reimbursement in accordance with subsection (g) of this section, in which case the facility specific reimbursement amount and any applicable outlier payment amount shall be multiplied by 108 percent."

No documentation was found to support that the facility requested separate reimbursement for implantables; for that reason the MAR is calculated according to §134.404(f)(1)(A).

3. §134.404(f)(1)(A) establishes MAR by multiplying the most recently adopted and effective Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) reimbursement formula and factors (including outliers) by 143%. Information regarding the calculation of Medicare IPPS payment rates may be found at <http://www.cms.gov>. Documentation found supports that the DRG assigned to the services in dispute is 042, and that the services were provided at NIX HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. Consideration of the DRG, location of the services, and bill-specific information results in a total Medicare facility specific allowable amount of \$13,224.86. This amount multiplied by 143% results in a MAR of \$18,911.55.
4. The total allowable reimbursement for the services in dispute is \$18,911.55. The amount previously paid by the insurance carrier is \$18,558.73. The requestor is seeking additional reimbursement in the amount of \$248.33. This amount is recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the division finds that an additional reimbursement is due.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code Sections 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the services involved in this dispute. The Division hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor the amount of \$248.33, plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this order.

Authorized Signature

Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

March 17, 2014
Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, effective May 31, 2012, 37 *Texas Register* 3833, **applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.**

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.