Texas Department of Insurance
Division of Workers' Compensation
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 • Austin, Texas 78744-1645
512-804-4000 telephone • 512-804-4811 fax • www.tdi.texas.gov

MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name
DR. ANDREW F BROOKER JR MD PA

Respondent Name
TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE CO

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-14-1192-01

Carrier's Austin Representative
Box Number: 54

MFDR Date Received
DECEMBER 31, 2013

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "We wish to request a review and reprocessing of the following claim which was filed on behalf of [redacted]. Reason for Appeal: The claims denied due to timely filing. However, these were emergency services that had to be provided to your member in the hospital. At the time of service the patient did not provide their insurance information. Our office was originally sending statements for reimbursement to the patient directly. We were then contacted by the patient at a later time and provided with the correct insurance information. This caused a delay in billing the claim to your company in a timely matter."

Amount in Dispute: $11,089.00

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "The following is the carrier's statement with respect to this dispute of 6/17/2013 and 6/22/13. 1. ANDREW F BROOKER JR MD PA provided services to the claimant on the date above. 2. ANDREW F BROOKER JR MD PA submitted its bill to claimant based on information provided by the claimant... 3. Texas Mutual on 10/9/13 received a bill from ANDREW F BROOKER JR MD PA... Rule 133.20(b) states, 'Except as provided in Labor Code §408.0272(b), (c) or (d), a health care provider shall not submit a medical bill later than the 95th day after the date the services are provided...' Ninety-five days from 6/22/13 is 9/25/13. The rational for payment given by ANDREW F BROOKER JR MD PA for the late bill is not consistent with the Rule above. No payment is due."

Response Submitted by: TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE CO

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
June 17, 2013 June 22, 2013	CPT Codes 99222-57, 27506-RT, 27506-AS-RT, 27506-78-RT	$11,089.00	$0.00

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 health care providers to pursue a medical fee dispute.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.20 sets out the procedures for health care providers to submit workers'

compensation medical bills for reimbursement.

3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §102.4 sets out the rules for non-Commission communications.
4. Texas Labor Code §408.027 sets out the rules for timely submission of a claim by a health care provider.
5. Texas Labor Code §408.0272 sets out the rules for certain exceptions for untimely submission of a claim by a health care provider.
6. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
   - 29 – The time limit for filing has expired.
   - 731 – Per 133.20 provider shall not submit a medical bill later than the 95th day after the date the service, for services on or after 8/1/05.
   - 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly.
   - 891 – No additional payment after reconsideration.

Issues

1. Is the timely filing deadline applicable to the medical bills for the services in dispute?
2. Did the requestor forfeit the right to reimbursement for the services in dispute?

Findings

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.20(b) states, in pertinent part, that, except as provided in Texas Labor Code §408.0272, "a health care provider shall not submit a medical bill later than the 95th day after the date the services are provided. In accordance with subsection (c) of the statute, the health care provider shall submit the medical bill to the correct workers' compensation insurance carrier not later than the 95th day after the date the health care provider is notified of the health care provider's erroneous submission of the medical bill. A health care provider who submits a medical bill to the correct workers' compensation insurance carrier shall include a copy of the original medical bill submitted, a copy of the explanation of benefits (EOB) if available, and sufficient documentation to support why one or more of the exceptions for untimely submission of a medical bill under §408.0272 should be applied..." Review of the documentation submitted by the requestor finds no convincing documentation was found to support that any of the exceptions described in Texas Labor Code §408.0272 apply to the services in this dispute. For that reason, the requestor in this dispute was required to submit the medical bill not later than 95 days after the date the disputed services were provided.
2. Texas Labor Code §408.027(a) states, in pertinent part, that "Failure by the health care provider to timely submit a claim for payment constitutes a forfeiture of the provider's right to reimbursement for that claim for payment." 28 Texas Administrative Code §102.4(h) states that "Unless the great weight of evidence indicates otherwise, written communications shall be deemed to have been sent on: (1) the date received, if sent by fax, personal delivery, or electronic transmission or, (2) the date postmarked if sent by mail via United States Postal Service regular mail, or, if the postmark date is unavailable, the later of the signature date on the written communication or the date it was received minus five days. If the date received minus five days is a Sunday or legal holiday, the date deemed sent shall be the next previous day which is not a Sunday or legal holiday." Review of the submitted information finds no documentation to support that a medical bill was submitted within 95 days from the date the services were provided. Therefore, pursuant to Texas Labor Code §408.027(a), the requestor in this medical fee dispute has forfeited the right to reimbursement due to untimely submission of the medical bill for the services in dispute.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has not established that reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is $0.00.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to $0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	June 23, 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.