



# 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](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

### MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Requestor Name**

Fort Duncan Medical Center

**Respondent Name**

TPS Joint Self Ins Funds

**MFDR Tracking Number**

M4-15-0409-01

**Carrier's Austin Representative**

Box Number 11

**MFDR Date Received**

September 26, 2014

#### REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

**Requestor's Position Summary:** "Please note their EOB states this HCPC is bundled per the NCCI edits, which we show is not true, it is payable per NCCI edits, especially when the HCPC 99284 has the modifier 25 added."

**Amount in Dispute:** \$84.60

#### RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

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

#### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Date(s) of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
May 23, 2014	Outpatient Hospital Services	\$84.60	\$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

- 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
- 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403 sets out the fee guidelines for outpatient acute care hospital services.
- The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
  - 236 – This procedure or procedure/modifier combination is not compensable with another procedure or procedure/modifier combination provided on the same day according to the NCCI edits or work comp state regs/fee schedule requirements.

#### Issues

- What is the applicable rule for determining reimbursement for the disputed services?
- What is the recommended payment amount for the services in dispute?
- Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement?

## **Findings**

1. The Division placed a copy of the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution request in the insurance carrier's Austin representative box, which was acknowledged, received on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(d)(1), "The response will be deemed timely if received by the division via mail service, personal delivery, or facsimile within 14 calendar days after the date the respondent received the copy of the requestor's dispute. If the division does not receive the response information within 14 calendar days of the dispute notification, then the division may base its decision on the available information." The insurance carrier did not submit any response for consideration in this dispute. Accordingly, this decision is based on the information available at the time of review.
2. This dispute relates to facility services performed in an outpatient hospital setting with reimbursement subject to the provisions of 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403, which requires that the reimbursement calculation used for establishing the maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR) shall be the Medicare facility specific amount, including outlier payment amounts, determined by applying the most recently adopted and effective Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) reimbursement formula and factors as published annually in the Federal Register with the application of minimal modifications as set forth in the rule. Per §134.403(f)(1), the sum of the Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount and any applicable outlier payment amount shall be multiplied by 200 percent, unless a facility or surgical implant provider requests separate reimbursement of implantables. Review of the submitted documentation finds that separate reimbursement for implantables is not applicable.
3. Under the Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS), each billed service is assigned an Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) based on the procedure code used, the supporting documentation and the other services that appear on the bill. A payment rate is established for each APC. Depending on the services provided, hospitals may be paid for more than one APC per encounter. Payment for ancillary and supportive items and services, including services that are billed without procedure codes, is packaged into payment for the primary service. A full list of APCs is published quarterly in the OPPS final rules which are publicly available through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) website. Reimbursement for the disputed services is calculated as follows:
  - Per Medicare policy, procedure code 96372 may not be reported with procedure code 99284 billed on the same claim. Payment for this service is included in the payment for the primary procedure. Separate payment is not recommended. The requestor states, "Please note their EOB states this HCPC is bundled per the NCCI edits, which we show is not true, it is payable per NCCI edits, especially when the HCPC 99284 has the modifier 25 added." The 25 modifier is defined as, "Modifier 25: The CPT Manual defines modifier 25 as a "significant, separately identifiable evaluation and management service by the same physician or other qualified health care professional on the same day of the procedure or other service". Modifier 25 may be appended to an evaluation and management (E&M) CPT code to indicate that the E&M service is significant and separately identifiable from other services reported on the same date of service. The E&M service may be related to the same or different diagnosis as the other procedure(s)." The National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual states in pertinent part, "(B) Therapeutic or Diagnostic Infusions/Injections and Immunizations (4) The administration of drugs and fluids other than antineoplastic agents, such as growth factors, antiemetics, saline, or diuretics, may be reported with CPT codes 96360-96379. If the sole purpose of fluid administration (e.g., saline, D5W, etc.) is to maintain patency of an access device, the infusion is neither diagnostic nor therapeutic and should not be reported separately. Similarly, the fluid utilized to administer drug(s)/substance(s) is incidental hydration and should not be reported separately." Review of the medical record submitted with the claim did not support the administration of fluids was a separate and distinct procedure. Therefore, the requestor's position is not supported.
4. The total allowable reimbursement for the services in dispute is \$0.00. This amount less the amount previously paid by the insurance carrier of \$0.00 leaves an amount due to the requestor of \$0.00. No additional reimbursement can be recommended.

## **Conclusion**

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has not established that additional 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

December , 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.**