



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

Lake Pointe Medical Center
c/o P. Matthew O'Neil, Attorney

Respondent Name

Texas Mutual Insurance Co

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-15-0974-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 54

MFDR Date Received

November 19, 2014

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "Pursuant to the TDI/DWC Rule 134.404, Hospital Fee Guideline, this outpatient surgical procedure should have paid at a rate of \$6,405.48. Less the payment made to date of \$4,294.17, a variance in the amount of \$2,111.31 remains unpaid for medically necessary services provided by the Hospital. Thus, the Carrier has failed to pay per the Outpatient Hospital Fee Guidelines."

Amount in Dispute: \$2,111.31

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "The requestor billed codes 29881 and 29875. The NCCI Edits for hospital indicate code 29875 may be billed separately from its comprehensive code 2988a if a modifier is used. Review of the bill reflects the requestor failed to append a modifier to 29875. For this reason Texas Mutual did not pay that code as the lack of a modifier means the payment for code 29875 is bundled to the APC rate for 29881. No additional payment is due."

Response Submitted by: Texas Mutual Insurance

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Date(s) of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
April 16, 2014	Outpatient Hospital Services	\$2,111.31	\$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 resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403 sets out the fee guidelines for outpatient acute care hospital services.
3. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
 - 618 – The value of this procedure is packaged into the payment of other services performed on the same date of service.
 - 370 – This hospital outpatient allowance was calculated according to the APC rate, plus a markup

- 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly.

Issues

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

Findings

1. 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.
2. 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:
 - Procedure code 88304 has a status indicator of X, which denotes ancillary services paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0433, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$36.53. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$21.92. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.9657 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$21.17. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$14.61. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$35.78. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$2,900. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$35.78. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$71.56.
 - Procedure code 29881 has a status indicator of T, which denotes a significant procedure subject to multiple-procedure discounting. The highest paying status T procedure is paid at 100%; all others are paid at 50%. This procedure is paid at 100%. These services are classified under APC 0041, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$2,155.67. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$1,293.40. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.9657 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$1,249.04. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$862.27. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$2,111.31. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$2,900. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$2,111.31. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$4,222.61.
 - Per National Correct Coding Initiatives policy, procedure code 29875 may not be reported with procedure code 29881 billed on the same claim unless supported by documentation detailing a distinct and separate procedure from primary procedure and use of appropriate modifier. Review of submitted medical bill and documentation found nothing to support a separate and distinct procedure. Therefore, payment for this service is included in the payment for the primary procedure. Separate payment is not recommended.
 - Procedure code J0171 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J0690 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J1885 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J2250 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.

- Procedure code J2405 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J3010 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J7120 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
3. The total allowable reimbursement for the services in dispute is \$4,294.17. This amount less the amount previously paid by the insurance carrier of \$4,294.17 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	January , 2015 Date
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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.