



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

NORTHWEST TEXAS
HOSPITAL

Respondent Name

ARCH INSURANCE CO

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-15-1595-01

Carrier's Austin Representative Box

Box Number 19

MFDR Date Received

January 27, 2015

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "Please be advised that our office represents NORTHWEST TEXAS HOSPITAL, in connection with the above referenced matter. Please direct any correspondence or communication regarding this account through our office.

This letter is supplemental to Part V of the attached form DWC-60, and will serve as NORTHWEST TEXAS HOSPITAL'S "Requestor's Rationale for Increased Reimbursement or Refund." This dispute originated with GALLAGHER BASSETT (hereinafter Carrier) denial of the above referenced claim based upon the assertion that the Claimant's presenting concerns did not constitute timely filing. Regarding this matter NORTHWEST TEXAS HOSPITAL (hereinafter Requestor) would show the following:

...

3. At that time, hospital staff was advised by [employer] (hereinafter "employer") that it had not yet reported the injury to its workers compensation carrier. The employer asked to receive the hospital's bill indicating that they would send it to the workers compensation carrier along with the report of injury.

4. These charges were billed to and subsequently denied in the Request for Reconsideration on date. Applicable mailing records indicate that it was received by Carrier on the date of 10/27/2011..

Following this Request for Reconsideration, the GALLAGHER BASSETT maintained its original determination. "the time limit for filing has expired."

Amount in Dispute: \$914.00

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "Our supplemental response for the above referenced medical fee dispute resolution is as follows: the bills in question were escalated and the review has been finalized. Our bill audit company has determined no further payment is due. Please see below for rationale behind the denial.

DOS: 02/28/14

The date of service on the bill is 2/28/14 and the bill was initially received by Gallagher Bassett on 6/30/14. The denial of the charges are correct per Rule 408.027 and Bulletin No. B-0037-05A which states Date(s) of service exceed (95) day time period submission."

Response Submitted by: Gallagher Bassett

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
February 28, 2014	Outpatient Hospital Service	\$914.00	\$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 resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.20 sets out medical bill submission procedures for health care providers.
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 claims by health care providers.
5. Texas Labor Code §408.0272 provides for certain exceptions to untimely submission of a medical bill.
6. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
 - 29 – The time limit for filing has expired
 - W3 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly
 - 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review it was determined that this claim was processed properly

Issues

1. What 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) requires 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." No 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 has forfeited the right to reimbursement due to untimely submission of the medical bill for the disputed services."

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

4/3/15
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 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*** along 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

Health care providers may verify workers' compensation insurance coverage and contact information from our website at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/employer/coverage.html or for additional assistance call the TDI-DWC Insurance Coverage section at **800-372-7713**.