



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

TEXAS HEALTH FORT WORTH

Respondent Name

QBE INSURANCE CORPORATION

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-16-1971-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 19

MFDR Date Received

March 10, 2016

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "they have not paid what we determine is the correct allowable per the APC allowable per the new fee schedule that started 3/01/2008"

Amount in Dispute: \$59.44

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: The insurance carrier did not submit a response for consideration in this review.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Table with 4 columns: Dates of Service, Disputed Services, Amount In Dispute, Amount Due. Row 1: April 27, 2015 to April 28, 2015, Procedure Code 90471, \$59.44, \$59.44

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and applicable 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 acute care hospital fee guideline for outpatient services.
3. The Division placed a copy of the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution request in the insurance carrier's Austin representative box, receipt acknowledged March 18, 2016. 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 respond. Accordingly, this decision is based on the information available at the time of review.

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 additional reimbursement?

Findings

1. This dispute regards outpatient hospital facility services 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.

Rule §134.403(e)(1) requires that, regardless of billed amount, reimbursement shall be the MAR amount under subsection (f).

2. Under the Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS), each billed service is assigned an Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) based on the procedure codes billed and supporting documentation. A payment rate is established for each APC. Hospitals may be paid for more than one APC per encounter. Payment for ancillary and supportive items and services (including services billed without procedure codes) is packaged into the payment for each APC. A full list of APCs is published quarterly in the OPPS final rules, which are publicly available from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Reimbursement for the disputed services is calculated as follows:

- Procedure code 90471 has status indicator S denoting a significant procedure, not subject to multiple-procedure discounting, paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0437, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$53.54. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$32.12. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.9512 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$30.55. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$21.42. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$51.97. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$2,775. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$51.97. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$103.94.

3. The total recommended payment for the services in dispute is \$103.94. The insurance carrier has previously paid \$44.50. As stated above, Rule §134.403(e)(1) requires that, *regardless of billed amount*, reimbursement shall be the MAR amount under subsection (f). Even though the provider only billed \$44.50, the MAR amount is \$103.94. The provider is seeking the difference between the billed amount and the MAR, which is \$59.44. This amount is recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$59.44.

ORDER

Based on the submitted information, pursuant to Texas Labor Code Sec. 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the services in dispute. The Division hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor the amount of \$59.44, plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this Order.

Authorized Signature

_____	_____	_____
Signature	Grayson Richardson Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	June 6, 2016 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 MFDR 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.