



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

MEMORIAL COMPOUNDING RX

Respondent Name

North River Insurance Co

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-18-0526-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box 53

MFDR Date Received

October 30, 2017

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "The Texas Labor Code Section 408.027(b) requires that the carrier must pay, reduce, or deny or determine to audit the health care provider's claim no later than the 45th day after the date of receipt by the carrier. Memorial did not receive any correspondence as per rule..."

Amount in Dispute: \$348.26

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: Carrier responds that it has no record that it properly received Requestor's bill prior to the date Carrier received notice of the MFDR. It is not clear at this time whether this may be related to the date of service provider has used- 5/23/17 appears on the request for medical dispute resolution- or whether provider properly addressed its mail/fax. Nonetheless, Carrier has processed the bill for payment. See attached page 1...Carrier is paying provider \$299.58 for the disputed date of service.

Response Submitted by: Hoffman Kelly Lopez LLP

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Table with 4 columns: Date of Service, Disputed Services, Amount In Dispute, Amount Due. Row 1: May 19, 2017, Prescription Medications, \$348.26, \$0.00

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 §134.503 sets out the reimbursement for medications.

3. Explanation of Benefits:

- P12 – Workers’ Compensation Jurisdictional Fee Schedule Adjustment. This charge for the prescription drug is greater than the maximum reimbursement for a generic drug.

Findings

The Division makes the following conclusions based upon the information and documentation presented to the Division to date. Even though all the evidence was not discussed, it was considered.

1. Did the carrier make a payment for the disputed services?

Memorial Compounding Rx (Memorial) asserts that it did not receive a response from the carrier up to the date that it filed this medical fee dispute. In its position, Memorial references Texas Labor Code Sec. 408.027 (b). This provision obligates the carrier to take final action by paying, reducing or denying the disputed services and issuing an explanation of benefits within 45 days after it has received the complete medical bill.

The carrier in this case refuted Memorial’s assertion that the carrier failed to respond to the medical bill explaining that it had no record of having received the medical bill for this particular disputed service until the filing of this dispute. Nevertheless, the carrier decided to issue a payment \$299.58 for the services in dispute shortly after they received a copy of the fee dispute.

The Division concludes that the carrier issued payment for the disputed services after Memorial filed this medical fee dispute.

2. Is additional reimbursement due?

The carrier reduced the billed amount to a total payment of \$299.58 citing the workers’ compensation fee schedule as its reason for the reduction. Rule at 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.503(c) applies and states, in pertinent part, that the insurance carrier shall reimburse the lesser of: (1) the fee established by the Division’s applicable formula based on the average wholesale price (AWP) as reported by a nationally recognized pharmaceutical price guide or other publication of pharmaceutical pricing data in effect on the day the prescription drug is dispensed; or (2) the amount billed to the insurance carrier.

Memorial is requesting reimbursement in the amount of \$348.26 for the disputed services. Memorial has the burden to support its request for this amount. In its original position statement, Memorial did not demonstrate how it arrived at the requested amount. After Memorial was notified by the Division’s medical fee dispute resolution program of the carrier’s response and payment, it did not take the opportunity to refute the carrier’s payment calculation. For that reason, the Division moves to resolve this dispute with the information available and concludes that no additional reimbursement can be recommended.

Conclusion

The Division concludes that Memorial has failed to support its request for additional reimbursement. As a result, the amount ordered is \$0.00.

ORDER

Based on the submitted information, and pursuant to Texas Labor Code Section 413.031, the division has determined that the requestor is not entitled to additional reimbursement for the services in dispute.

Authorized Signature

Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

February 12, 2018
Date

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, 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.