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 | F: (512) 804-4811 | (800) 252-7031 | TDI.texas.gov | @TexasTDI

MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name
Memorial Compounding Pharmacy

Respondent Name
New Hampshire Insurance Company

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-19-1078-01

Carrier's Austin Representative
Box Number 19

MFDR Date Received
October 25, 2018

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "It looks like the carrier processed and paid only PARTIAL of the total bill."

Amount in Dispute: $254.52

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "This bill was denied for lack of medical necessity. Even if medically necessary, per the attached from Dr. Twomey, the treatment would not be related to the claimed compensable injury."

Response Submitted by: Flahive, Ogden & Latson

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
February 16, 2018	Compound Medication	$254.52	$254.52

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 §134.502 sets out the procedures for pharmaceutical benefits.
3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.503 sets out the fee guidelines for pharmaceutical services.
4. The insurance carrier reduced payment based on medical necessity.

Issues

1. Is this dispute subject to dismissal based on extent of injury?
2. Is this dispute subject to dismissal based on medical necessity?
3. Is Memorial Compounding Pharmacy (Memorial) entitled to reimbursement for the compound in question?

Findings

1. Memorial is seeking reimbursement for a compound dispensed on February 16, 2018. In its position statement the insurance carrier argued that the disputed drug was denied based on relatedness to the compensable injury.

   The response from the insurance carrier is required to address only the denial reasons presented to the requestor the request for medical fee dispute resolution (MFDR) was filed with the division. Any new denial reasons or defenses raised shall not be considered for review.[1]

   The submitted documentation does not support that a denial based on relatedness to the compensable injury was provided to Memorial before this request for MFDR was filed. Therefore, the division will not consider this argument in the current dispute review as this issue constitutes a new defense.

2. Per explanation of benefits dated March 7, 2018, the insurance carrier denied the disputed compound based on medical necessity.

   Medical necessity disputes must be resolved prior to submission of a medical fee dispute.[2] The insurance carrier is required to perform a utilization review before a denial based on medical necessity, including giving the health care provider – in this case, Memorial – an opportunity to discuss the treatment in question.[3]

   The respondent is required to submit documentation to support a denial based on lack of medical necessity.[4] New Hampshire Insurance Company provided no evidence to support that it performed a utilization review to determine medical necessity.[5] This denial reason is not supported.

3. Because the insurance carrier failed to sufficiently support its denial of reimbursement, Memorial is entitled to reimbursement.

   The compound in dispute was billed by listing each drug included in the compound and calculating the charge for each drug separately.[6] Each ingredient is listed below with its reimbursement amount.[7] The calculation of the total allowable amount is as follows:

Drug	NDC	Generic(G) /Brand(B)	Price /Unit	Units Billed	AWP Formula	Billed Amt	Lesser of AWP and Billed
Flurbiprofen	38779036209	G	$36.58	6	$274.35	$219.48	$219.48
Meloxicam	38779274601	G	$194.67	0.18	$43.80	$35.04	$35.04
						Total	$254.52

   The total reimbursement is therefore $254.52. This amount is recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is $254.52.

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[1] 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(d)(2)(F)
[2] 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305(b)
[3] 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.240(q)
[4] 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(d)(2)(I)
[5] 28 Texas Administrative Codes §§134.240 and 19.2009
[6] 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.502(d)(2)
[7] 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.503(c)

ORDER

Based on the submitted information, pursuant to Texas Labor Code Section 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the division has determined the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services. The division hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor $254.52, plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this order.

Authorized Signature

___________________________	Laurie Garnes	May 2, 2019
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with Rule §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. **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.