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
Liberty Mutual Insurance Co

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-19-1893-01

Carrier's Austin Representative
Box Number 1

MFDR Date Received
November 30, 2018

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "These medications do not require preauthorization."

Amount in Dispute: $555.68

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "The bill has been reviewed and denial stands as ODG Guideline for topical compounded analgesic medications have not been met."

Response Submitted by: Liberty Mutual

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
May 29, 2018	Compounded pharmacy	$555.68	$555.68

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 fee guidelines for pharmaceutical services.
3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.530 sets out prior authorization requirement for pharmacy services.
4. The insurance carrier reduced payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:
   - 484 – According to the Texas Division of Workers Compensation Rules effective May 1, 2007, all medical treatment provided to worker's compensation patients in the State of Texas must follow the official disability guidelines. The services provided are outside the ODG Guidelines and no preauthorization was requested

Issues

1. Is the insurance carrier's reason for denial of payment supported?
2. Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement for the compound in question?

Findings

1. The requestor is seeking reimbursement of $555.68 for a compound dispensed May 29, 2018. The carrier denied the disputed compound based on lack of preauthorization.

   28 TAC §134.530(b)(1)(A) which states,

   > Preauthorization is only required for:
   >
   > (A) drugs identified with a status of "N" in the current edition of the ODG Treatment in Workers' Comp (ODG) / Appendix A, ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary, and any updates;
   >
   > (B) any prescription drug created through compounding prescribed before July 1, 2018 that contains a drug identified with a status of "N" in the current edition of the ODG Treatment in Workers' Comp (ODG) / Appendix A, ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary, and any updates;
   >
   > (C) any prescription drug created through compounding prescribed and dispensed on or after July 1, 2018; and
   >
   > (D) any investigational or experimental drug for which there is early, developing scientific or clinical evidence demonstrating the potential efficacy of the treatment, but which is not yet broadly accepted as the prevailing standard of care as defined in Labor Code §413.014(a).

   DWC finds that the compound in dispute does not include a drug identified with a status of "N" in the current edition of the ODG, *Appendix A,* has a date if service after July 1, 2018, and insufficient evidence was found to support a utilization review of the medical efficacy of the treatment was performed.

   DWC concludes the carrier's denial is not supported. The disputed compound will be reviewed for reimbursement.

2. 28 TAC §134.503 (c) applies to the compounds in dispute and states, in pertinent part:

   > (c) The insurance carrier shall reimburse the health care provider or pharmacy processing agent for prescription drugs the lesser of:
   > (1) the fee established by the following formulas 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:
   > (A) Generic drugs: ((AWP per unit) x (number of units) x 1.25) + $4.00 dispensing fee per prescription = reimbursement amount;
   > (B) Brand name drugs: ((AWP per unit) x (number of units) x 1.09) + $4.00 dispensing fee per prescription = reimbursement amount;
   > (C) When compounding, a single compounding fee of $15 per prescription shall be added to the calculated total for either paragraph (1)(A) or (B) of this subsection; or

Drug	NDC	Generic(G) /Brand(B)	Price /Unit	Units Billed	AWP Formula	Billed Amt	Lesser of AWP and Billed
Baclofen	38779038809	G	$35.63	5.4	$240.50	$190.78	$190.78
Amantadine	38779041105	G	$24.23	3	$90.84	$72.69	$72.69
Gabapentin	38779246109	G	$59.85	3.6	$269.33	$204.66	$204.66
Bupivacaine	38779052405	G	$45.60	1.2	$68.40	$54.72	$54.72
Amitriptyline	38779018904	G	$18.24	1.8	$41.04	$32.83	$32.83
						Total	$555.68

The total reimbursement is $555.68. This amount is recommended.

Conclusion

The outcome of each independent medical fee dispute relies upon the relevant evidence presented by the requestor and the respondent at the time of adjudication. Though all the evidence in this dispute may not have been discussed, it was considered.

For the reasons stated above, DWC finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is $555.68.

ORDER

Based on the submitted information, pursuant to Texas Labor Code Section 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), DWC has determined the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services.
DWC hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor $555.68, plus applicable accrued interest per 28 TAC §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this order.

Authorized Signature

		September 11, 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 DWC within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to DWC 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.