



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

TEXAS HEALTH OF DALLAS

Respondent Name

HARTFORD CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-19-4002-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 47

MFDR Date Received

April 30, 2019

Response Submitted By

The Hartford

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

"Underpaid/Denied Physical Therapy Rate"

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

"These services are processed using Medicare's Physician Fee Schedule rate."

SUMMARY OF DISPUTE

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Dispute Amount	Amount Due
December 6, 2018 to December 28, 2018	Outpatient Hospital Services	\$41.36	\$0.00

AUTHORITY

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

- 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
- 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403 sets out the hospital facility fee guideline for outpatient services.
- 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203 sets out the fee guideline for professional medical services.
- The insurance carrier reduced payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:
 - 45 – CHARGE EXCEEDS FEE SCHEDULE/MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE OR CONTRACTED LEGISLATED FEE ARRANGEMENT.
 - 150 – PAYER DEEMS THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS LEVEL OF SERVICE.
 - 163 – THE CHARGE FOR THIS PROCEDURE EXCEEDS THE UNIT VALUE AND/OR MULTIPLE PROCEDURE RULES
 - 170 – REIMBURSEMENT IS BASED ON THE OUTPATIENT/INPATIENT FEE SCHEDULE.
 - 1115 - WE FIND THE ORIGINAL REVIEW TO BE ACCURATE AND ARE UNABLE TO RECOMMEND ANY ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE
 - 119 – BENEFIT MAXIMUM FOR THIS TIME PERIOD OR OCCURRENCE HAS BEEN REACHED
 - W3 – ADDITIONAL PAYMENT MADE ON APPEAL/RECONSIDERATION.
 - 193 – ORIGINAL PAYMENT DECISION IS BEING MAINTAINED. UPON REVIEW, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THIS CLAIM WAS PROCESSED PROPERLY.
 - P12 – WORKERS' COMPENSATION JURISDICTIONAL FEE SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENT.

Issues

Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement?

Findings

This dispute regards outpatient physical therapy services not paid under Medicare's Outpatient Prospective Payment System but using Medicare's Physician Fee Schedule. *DWC Hospital Fee Guideline* Rule §134.403(h) requires use of the fee guideline applicable to the code on the date provided if Medicare reimburses using other fee schedules. *DWC Professional Fee Guideline* Rule §134.203(c) requires the maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR) be determined by applying Medicare payment policies modified by DWC rules. The MAR is the sum of the geographically adjusted work, practice expense and malpractice values multiplied by a DWC conversion factor.

When more than one unit is billed of therapy services designated by multiple-procedure payment indicator '5', Medicare policy requires the first unit of therapy with the highest practice expense for that day be paid in full. Payment is reduced by 50% of the practice expense (PE) for each extra therapy unit provided on that date.

Reimbursement is calculated as follows:

- Procedure code 97140, December 6, 2018, has a Work RVU of 0.43 multiplied by the Work GPCI of 1.012 is 0.43516. The practice expense RVU of 0.35 multiplied by the PE GPCI of 1.014 is 0.3549. The malpractice RVU of 0.01 multiplied by the malpractice GPCI of 0.768 is 0.00768. The sum is 0.79774 multiplied by the DWC conversion factor of \$58.31 for a MAR of \$46.52. For each extra therapy unit after the first unit of the code with the highest PE, payment is reduced by 50% of the practice expense. The PE for this code is not the highest. The PE reduced rate is \$36.17.
- Procedure code 97140, December 10, 2018, has a Work RVU of 0.43 multiplied by the Work GPCI of 1.012 is 0.43516. The practice expense RVU of 0.35 multiplied by the PE GPCI of 1.014 is 0.3549. The malpractice RVU of 0.01 multiplied by the malpractice GPCI of 0.768 is 0.00768. The sum is 0.79774 multiplied by the DWC conversion factor of \$58.31 for a MAR of \$46.52. For each extra therapy unit after the first unit of the code with the highest PE, payment is reduced by 50% of the practice expense. The PE for this code is not the highest. The PE reduced rate is \$36.17 at 2 units is \$72.34.
- Procedure code 97140, December 18, 2018, has a Work RVU of 0.43 multiplied by the Work GPCI of 1.012 is 0.43516. The practice expense RVU of 0.35 multiplied by the PE GPCI of 1.014 is 0.3549. The malpractice RVU of 0.01 multiplied by the malpractice GPCI of 0.768 is 0.00768. The sum is 0.79774 multiplied by the DWC conversion factor of \$58.31 for a MAR of \$46.52. For each extra therapy unit after the first unit of the code with the highest PE, payment is reduced by 50% of the practice expense. The PE for this code is not the highest. The PE reduced rate is \$36.17.
- Procedure code 97140, December 28, 2018, has a Work RVU of 0.43 multiplied by the Work GPCI of 1.012 is 0.43516. The practice expense RVU of 0.35 multiplied by the PE GPCI of 1.014 is 0.3549. The malpractice RVU of 0.01 multiplied by the malpractice GPCI of 0.768 is 0.00768. The sum is 0.79774 multiplied by the DWC conversion factor of \$58.31 for a MAR of \$46.52. For each extra therapy unit after the first unit of the code with the highest PE, payment is reduced by 50% of the practice expense. The PE for this code is not the highest. The PE reduced rate is \$36.17.

The total allowable reimbursement for the disputed services is \$180.85. The insurance carrier paid \$180.85. The amount due is \$0.00. No additional payment is recommended.

Conclusion

In resolving disputes regarding the amount of payment due for health care determined to be medically necessary and appropriate for treatment of a compensable injury, the role of the division is to adjudicate the payment, given the relevant statutory provisions and division rules. The findings in this decision are based on the evidence available at the time of review. Even though not all the evidence was discussed, it was considered.

For the reasons stated above, the division finds that the requestor has not established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$0.00.

ORDER

In accordance with Texas Labor Code §413.031, based on the information submitted for review, the division hereby determines the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 additional reimbursement for the services in dispute.

Authorized Signature

Signature

Grayson Richardson
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

May 16, 2019
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. The appealing party must submit a *Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision* (form DWC045M). The division must receive the request within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered either to the field office handling the claim or to the division at the contact information listed on the form. You must deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time you file the request. Include a **copy** of this **Medical Fee Dispute Decision** together with any other information required by 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.