



# 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**

Northwest Texas Healthcare

**Respondent Name**

Federated Service Insurance Co

**MFDR Tracking Number**

M4-20-1166-01

**Carrier's Austin Representative**

Box Number 1

**MFDR Date Received**

January 10, 2020

#### REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

**Requestor's Position Summary:** "...we are submitting the Explanation of Benefits, UB-04, Itemized Bill, our notes showing numerous attempts for bill status prior to the billing deadline..."

**Amount in Dispute:** \$33,865.00

#### RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

**Respondent's Position Summary:** "As Chapter 133, Subchapter B, SS 133.20 (b) of the Texas Administrative Code requires a provider to submit a complete medical bill with supporting documentation within 95 days of the date of service, the charges were at that time denied for untimely filing."

**Response Submitted by:** Federated Insurance

#### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

| Dates of Service    | Disputed Services            | Amount In Dispute | Amount Due |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| December 9-10, 2017 | Outpatient Hospital Services | \$33,865.00       | \$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**

- 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
- The insurance carrier reduced payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:
  - 29 – The time limit for filing has expired

**Issue**

Did the requestor waive the right to medical fee dispute resolution?

**Findings**

The requestor is seeking reimbursement for outpatient hospital services rendered in December 2017.

28 TAC §133.307(c)(1) states a requestor shall timely file with the Division's MDR Section or waive the right to MDR.

The date of the service in dispute is December 10, 2017. The request for medical dispute resolution was received in the Medical Dispute Resolution (MDR) section on January 10, 2020.

This date is later than one year after the date(s) of service in dispute.

Review of the submitted documentation finds that the disputed services do not involve issues of compensability, extent of injury, liability, medical necessity or a request of a refund, no exception to the requirement of timely filing was found.

DWC concludes that the requestor has failed to timely file this dispute with DWC’s MDR Section and waived the right to medical fee dispute resolution.

**Conclusion**

In resolving disputes over reimbursement for medically necessary health care to treat a compensable injury, the role of DWC is to adjudicate payment following Texas laws and DWC 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 above the requestor has not established payment is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$0.00.

**ORDER**

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, DWC has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

**Authorized Signature**

|           |  |                  |
|-----------|--|------------------|
|           |  | February 7, 2020 |
| 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 28 TAC §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 MDR 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 DWC. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 TAC §141.1(d).

**Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.**