



# 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 telephone • 512-804-4811 fax • [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

### MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Requestor Name**

GABRIEL JASSO, PHD

**Respondent Name**

TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE CO

**MFDR Tracking Number**

M4-20-1448-01

**Carrier's Austin Representative**

Box Number 54

**MFDR Date Received**

FEBRUARY 10, 2020

#### REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

"The carrier has no paid this claim in accordance and compliance with TDI-DWC Rule 133 and 134."

**Amount in Dispute:** \$1,178.02

#### RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

The respondent did not submit a response to this request for medical fee dispute resolution.

#### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
August 26, 2019	CPT Code 96116 (X1)	\$0.00	\$0.00
	CPT Code 96121 (X3)	\$0.00	\$0.00
	CPT Code 96132 (X1)	\$0.00	\$0.00
	CPT Code 96133 (X9)	\$1,178.02	\$0.00
	CPT Code 96136(X1)	\$0.00	\$0.00
	CPT Code 96137 (X19)	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL		\$1,178.02	\$0.00

#### FINDINGS AND DECISION

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

## **Background**

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §133.307, effective May 31, 2012, sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 TAC §134.203, effective March 1, 2008, sets out the fee guidelines for reimbursement of professional medical services provided in the Texas workers' compensation system.
3. The services in dispute were reduced / denied by the respondent with the following claim adjustment reason codes:
  - CAC-P12-Workers' compensation jurisdictional fee schedule adjustment.
  - CAC-W3, 350-In accordance with TDI-DWC rule 134.804, this bill has been identified as a request for reconsideration or appeal.
  - CAC-193-Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly.
  - 724-No additional payment after a reconsideration of services.
  - 790-This charge was reimbursed in accordance to the Texas medical fee guideline.
  - Issues

## **Issues**

Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement for CPT code 96133 rendered on August 26, 2019?

## **Findings**

1. The Austin carrier representative for Texas Mutual Insurance Co is Texas Mutual Insurance Co. Texas Mutual Insurance Co acknowledged receipt of the copy of this medical fee dispute on February 19, 2020. Rule §133.307(d)(1) states that if the division does not receive the response within 14 calendar days of the dispute notification, then the division may base its decision on the available information  
  
As of today, no response has been received from the carrier or its representative. We therefore base this decision on the information available as authorized under §133.307(d)(1).
2. The requestor is seeking medical fee dispute resolution in the amount of \$1,178.02 for CPT code 96133 rendered on August 26, 2019.
3. The respondent reduced payment for the disputed services based upon the fee guideline.
4. To determine if the respondent's reduction of payment is supported, the DWC refers to the following statute:
  - The fee guideline for disputed services is found at 28 TAC§134.203.
  - 28 TAC §134.203(a)(5) states, "Medicare payment policies" when used in this section, shall mean reimbursement methodologies, models, and values or weights including its coding, billing, and reporting payment policies as set forth in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) payment policies specific to Medicare."
  - 28 TAC §134.203(b)(1) states, "For coding, billing, reporting, and reimbursement of professional medical services, Texas workers' compensation system participants shall apply the following: (1) Medicare payment policies, including its coding; billing; correct coding initiatives (CCI) edits; modifiers; bonus payments for health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) and physician scarcity areas (PSAs); and other payment policies in effect on the date a service is provided with any additions or exceptions in the rules."
5. These codes are described as:
  - CPT code 96116-"Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgment, [eg, acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities]), by physician or other qualified health care professional, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report; first hour."
  - CPT code 96121-"Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgment, [eg, acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities]), by physician or other qualified health care professional, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report; each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)."
  - CPT code 96132-"Neuropsychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report, and interactive feedback to the

patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed; first hour.”

- CPT code 96133-“Neuropsychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed; each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).”
- CPT code 96136-“Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional, two or more tests, any method; first 30 minutes.”
- CPT code 96137-“Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional, two or more tests, any method; each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).”

As noted from the code descriptors, code 96133 is a timed procedure. It is also billed as a secondary code to 96132 for additional time.

NCCI Policy Manual, Chapter 12, (M)(2), effective January 1, 2019 states, “The psychiatric diagnostic interview examination (CPT codes 90791, 90792), psychological/neuropsychological testing (CPT codes 96136-96146), and psychological / neuropsychological evaluation services (CPT codes 96130-96133) must be distinct services if reported on the same date of service. CPT Manual instructions permit physicians to integrate other sources of clinical data into the report that is generated for CPT codes 96130-96133. Since the procedures described by CPT codes 96130-96139 are timed procedures, physicians shall not report time for duplicating information (collection or interpretation) included in the psychiatric diagnostic interview examination and/or psychological/neuropsychological evaluation services or test administration and scoring. (CPT codes 96101 and 96118 were deleted January 1, 2019.)

The requestor noted on the Neuropsychological Examination Report that the claimant underwent a total of 24 hours of examination and testing on the disputed date of service. The report noted that the claimant underwent 10 hours of Neuropsychological testing evaluation; 4 hours of Examinee Interview & Neurobehavioral/Mental Status exam; and 10 hours of Neuropsychological Testing & Scoring.

The DWC finds the requestor billed for twenty-four hours of service on August 26, 2019. The requestor did not bill in accordance with NCCI Policy Manual, Chapter 12, (M)(2), because “procedures described by CPT codes 96130-96139 are timed procedures, physicians shall not report time for duplicating information (collection or interpretation) included in the psychiatric diagnostic interview examination and/or psychological/neuropsychological evaluation services or test administration and scoring.” The report does not list the start and end time of time procedure codes 96132, 96133, 96136 and 96137 to support the number of hours billed. The requestor has not supported request for reimbursement of code 96133.

## **Conclusion**

For the reasons stated above, the DWC finds that the requestor has not established that additional reimbursement 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, the DWC has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

## **Authorized Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

04/23/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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 Texas Administrative Code §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 DWC within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the 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 the DWC. **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.**