



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

Medical Associates of Brownsville

Respondent Name

State Office of Risk Management

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-20-2765-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 45

MFDR Date Received

July 24, 2020

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "Claim was originally denied for, "lacks information which is needed for adjudication." Claim has been mailed and faxed, numerous times, without accurate processing."

Amount in Dispute: \$1,184.00

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "...the Division received this dispute on July 24, 2020 which is over 1 year from the date of service of 3/15/2020."

Response Submitted by: State Office of Risk Management

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
March 15, 2019	73718-RT	\$1,184.00	\$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
 - 16 – Claim/service lacks information which is needed for adjudication.

Issue

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

Findings

The requestor is seeking reimbursement for professional medical services rendered March 15, 2019. The request for medical fee dispute resolution was received by MFDR on July 24, 2020.

28 TAC §133.307(c)(1)(A) states a request for medical fee dispute resolution that does not involve issues of compensability, extent of injury, liability, compensability, medical necessity or a refund shall be filed no later than one year after the date(s) of service in dispute.

The received date is more 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 identified above.

DWC concludes that the requestor has failed to timely file this dispute with DWC’s MDR Section; consequently, the requestor has 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

Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	August 17, 2020 Date
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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.