



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

COVENANT MED CENTER

Respondent Name

TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE CO

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-21-0171-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 54

MFDR Date Received

October 2, 2020

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "Please review and reconsider full payment for services rendered to [injured employee]. This claim is being denied for lack of authorization. We did get an authorization for these services."

Amount in Dispute: \$4,841.12

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "One year from disputed date 2/4/2019-2-28/2019 is 2/28/2020. The TDI/DWC date stamp lists the received date as 10/2/2020 on the requestor's DWC-60 packet, a date greater than one year from 2/28/2020. The requestor has waived its right to DWC MDR."

Response Submitted by: Texas Mutual Insurance Company

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Table with 4 columns: Dates of Service, Disputed Services, Amount In Dispute, Amount Due. Row 1: February 04, 2019 to February 28, 2019; Hospital Outpatient Service; \$4,841.12; \$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

- 1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. The insurance carrier reduced payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:
- CO - Contractual Obligation (Patient may not be billed for these)
- 243 - Services not authorized by network/primary care providers

Issues

- 1. Did the requestor waive the right to medical fee dispute resolution?

Findings

- 1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(c)(1) states:

Timeliness. A requestor shall timely file the request with the division's MFDR Section or waive the right to MFDR. The division shall deem a request to be filed on the date the MFDR Section receives the request. A decision by the MFDR Section that a request was not timely filed is not a dismissal and may be appealed pursuant to subsection (g) of this section.

(A) A request for MFDR that does not involve issues identified in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall be filed no later than one year after the date(s) of service in dispute.

The date of the services in dispute is February 4, 2019 to February 28, 2019. The request for medical fee dispute resolution was received in the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MFDR) Section on October 2, 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 identified in §133.307(c)(1)(B). The Division concludes that the requestor has failed to timely file this dispute with the Division's MFDR Section; consequently, the requestor has waived the right to medical fee dispute resolution.

Conclusion

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

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

Authorized Signature

Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

October 26, 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 Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division 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 with the Division. **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.