



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 EVALUATORS OF TEXAS

Respondent Name

OLD REPUBLIC INSURANCE CO

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-21-0430-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 44

MFDR Date Received

November 13, 2020

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Submitted documentation does not include a position statement from the requestor. Accordingly, this decision is based on the information available at the time of adjudication.

Amount in Dispute: \$150.00

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Submitted documentation does not include a position statement from the respondent. Accordingly, this decision is based on the information available at the time of adjudication.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
August 1, 2020	Designated Doctor Examination (99456-W5-WP)	\$150.00	\$150.00

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 (DWC).

Background

- 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
- 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.250 sets out the fee guidelines for examinations to determine maximum medical improvement and impairment rating.
- The insurance carrier reduced payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:
 - P12 – Workers' compensation jurisdictional fee schedule adjustment.
 - Notes: "THE CHARGE FOR THIS PROCEDURE EXCEEDS THE FEE SCHEDULE ALLOWANCE. (309)"

- Notes: “AN ALLOWANCE HAS BEEN PAID FOR A DESIGNATED DOCTOR EXAMINATION AS OUTLINED IN 134.204(j) FOR ATTAINMENT OF MAXIMUM MEDICAL IMPROVEMENT. AN ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE IS PAYABLE IF A DETERMINATION OF THE IMPAIRMENT CAUSED BY THE COMPENSABLE INJURY WAS ALSO PERFORMED. (4150)”
- 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly.
- Notes: “Additional allowance is not recommended as this bill was reviewed in accordance with state guidelines, usual and customary policies, provider’s contract, or carrier decision. (5283)”

Issues

1. Did Old Republic Insurance Co. respond to the medical fee dispute?
2. Is Medical Evaluators of Texas entitled to additional reimbursement?

Findings

1. The Austin carrier representative for Old Republic Insurance Co is White Espey, PLLC. The representative was notified of this medical fee dispute on November 17, 2020. If the DWC does not receive the response within 14 calendar days of the dispute notification, then the DWC may base its decision on the available information.¹

As of today, no response has been received from the insurance carrier or its representative. We will base this decision on the information available.

2. Medical Evaluators of Texas is seeking additional reimbursement for an examination to determine maximum medical improvement and impairment rating.

The submitted documentation supports that Nilima Rai, M.D. performed an evaluation of maximum medical improvement as ordered by the DWC. The maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR) for this examination is \$350.00.²

The submitted documentation supports that Dr. Rai provided an impairment rating of the spine using the DRE method. The MAR for this examination is \$150.00.³

The total allowable reimbursement is \$500.00. The insurance carrier paid \$350.00. An additional reimbursement of \$150.00 is recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the DWC finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$150.00.

ORDER

Based on the submitted information, pursuant to Texas Labor Code Section 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the DWC has determined the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services. The DWC hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor \$150.00, plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this order.

¹ 28 TAC §133.307(d)(1)

² 28 TAC §134.250(3)(C)

³ 28 TAC §134.250(4)(C)(ii)(I)

Authorized Signature

Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

February 2, 2021

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, 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 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. **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.