



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

PACIFIC BILLING

Respondent Name

ALIEF ISD

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-21-1739-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 21

MFDR Date Received

June 2, 2021

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "MMI = \$350.00
IR – CRANIAL NERVE/VISION = \$150.00
IR – SKIN = \$150.00
TTL = \$650.00"

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
January 22, 2021	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.

Issues

1. Did Alief ISD respond to the medical fee dispute?
2. Is Pacific Billing entitled to additional reimbursement for the examination in question?

Findings

1. The Austin carrier representative for Alief ISD is Thornton, Biechlin, Segrato, Reyn. The representative was notified of this medical fee dispute on June 8, 2021. 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. Pacific Billing is seeking additional reimbursement for a designated doctor examination performed on January 22, 2021.

The submitted documentation supports that Francis Burch, 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

Review of the submitted documentation finds that Dr. Burch performed impairment rating evaluations of visual systems and skin. The MAR for the assignment of impairment rating for non-musculoskeletal body areas is \$150.00 each.³ The total MAR for the determination of impairment rating is \$300.00.

The total allowable reimbursement for the examination in question is \$650.00. The insurance carrier paid \$500.00. An additional reimbursement of \$150.00 is recommended.

Conclusion

The outcome of each independent medical fee dispute relies upon the relevant evidence presented by the requestor and the respondent at the time of adjudication. Though all the evidence in this dispute may not have been discussed, it was considered. For the reasons stated above, the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers’ Compensation (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.

Authorized Signature

		July 27, 2021
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

¹ 28 TAC §133.307(d)(1)
² 28 TAC §134.250(3)(C)
³ 28 TAC §134.250(4)(D)(v)

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.