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
Memorial Compounding Pharmacy

Respondent Name
Indemnity Insurance Co of North America

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-21-1893-01

Carriers' Austin Representative
Box Number 15

MFDR Date Received
June 23, 2021

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "The carrier has received the attached bill and has not processed according to Texas Labor Code 408.027."

Amount in Dispute: $180.43

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "The medication in dispute, Tramadol-Acetaminophen is listed as an opioid. Therefore, preauthorization should be required for all opioids. The medication was denied for lack of preauthorization, and reimbursement should not be allowed."

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
March 19 2021	Oral medication	$180.43	$42.41

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. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.503 sets out the fee guidelines for pharmaceutical services.
3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.530 sets out the requirements of prior authorization.

Issues

1. Is the respondents' position supported?
2. What rule is applicable to DWC fee guideline?

Findings

1. The requestor is seeking reimbursement for oral medication dispensed March 19, 2021. The insurance carrier states in their position statement prior authorization is required based on the classification of the medication.

   DWC Rule 28 TAC §134.530 states in pertinent part prior authorization is required for medications listed as a "N" drug in Appendix A of the ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary.

   Review of Appendix A for the time period in dispute found the medication, Tramadol-Acetaminophen, is listed as a "Y" drug, not a "N" drug.

Drug Class	Generic Name	Brand Name	Gener Equiv	Status
Opioids	Tramadol/Acetaminophen	Ultracet ®	Yes	Y

   The requestors' position is not supported. The service in dispute will be reviewed per applicable fee guideline.

2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.503 (c) states the insurance carrier shall reimburse the health care provider or pharmacy processing agent for prescription drugs the lesser of the fee established by the following formulas based on the average wholesale price (AWP) as reported by a nationally recognized pharmaceutical price guide or other publication of pharmaceutical pricing data in effect on the day the prescription drug is dispensed:
   - Generic drugs: ((AWP per unit) x (number of units) x 1.25) + $4.00 dispensing fee per prescription = reimbursement amount;

Drug	NDC	Generic(G) /Brand(B)	Price /Unit	Units Billed	AWP Formula	Billed Amt	Lesser of AWP and Billed
Tramadol-Acetaminophen	00378808805	G	1.024	30	$42.41	$180.43	$42.41

The total reimbursement is $42.41. This amount 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 Division finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is $42.41.

ORDER

Based on the submitted information, pursuant to Texas Labor Code Section 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the division has determined the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services. The division hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor $42.41, plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this order.

Authorized Signature

		July 26, 2021
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	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 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. **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.