

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision

General Information

Requestor Name

Hunt Regional Medical Center

Respondent Name

Safety National Casualty Corp

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-22-0365-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 19

DWC Date Received

October 22, 2021

Summary of Findings

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
December 17, 2020	REV 20- Pharmacy	\$30.86	\$0.00
December 17, 2020	J1100-Pharmacy	\$11.55	\$0.00
December 17, 2020	96372-ER	\$122.00	\$0.00
December 17, 2020	99283-ER	\$710.00	\$437.44
December 17, 2020	J188D-Drugs	\$30.03	\$0.00

Requestor's Position

Hunt Regional Medical Center is disputing Gallagher Bassett's decision to deny (claimant's) treatment for emergent care on 12/17/2020. Per Administrative rule 133.2A, it is the Hospital's understanding that emergent care is determined medically necessary by the Patient's opinion that the severity of their condition requires emergent care and/or a medical emergency.

Amount in Dispute: \$904.24

Respondent's Position

The Austin carrier representative for Safety National Casualty Corp is Flahive Ogden and Latson. The representative was notified of this medical fee dispute on October 26, 2021.

Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(d)(1), 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.

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

Findings and Decision

Authority

This medical fee dispute is decided according to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and applicable rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC).

Statutes and Rules

1. 28 TAC §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 TAC §134.403 sets out the reimbursement guidelines for outpatient services.

Denial Reasons

The insurance carrier [reduced or denied] the payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:

- 5405 – This charge was reviewed through the clinical validation program
- 5356 – CV: Emergency Room Service is not related to an open WC claim. Charges denied.
- B20 – Payment adjusted because procedure/service was partially or fully furnished by another provider
- 6163 – The charge for the services represented by revenue code are included/bundled into total facility payment and do not warrant a separate payment or the PA
- 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly
- 29 – The time limit for filing has expired
- P12 – Workers' compensation jurisdictional fee schedule adjustment

Issues

1. Is the insurance carriers' denial supported?
2. What rule applies for determining reimbursement for the disputed services?
3. Is the requester entitled to additional reimbursement?

Findings

1. The requestor is seeking reimbursement for emergency room services rendered in December

2020. The insurance carrier denied initial claim stating not related to open workers' compensation claim, services furnished by another provider and upheld these denials upon reconsideration. Review of the submitted documentation found insufficient evidence to support these denials. The disputed service will be reviewed per applicable fee guideline.

2. DWC Rule 28 TAC §134.403 (d) requires Texas workers' compensation system participants when coding, billing, reporting and reimbursement to apply Medicare payment policies in effect on the date of service.

The Medicare payment policy applicable to the services in dispute is found at www.cms.gov, Claims processing Manual, Chapter 4, Section 10.1.1. Specifically, Payment Status Indicators and Ambulatory Payment Category (APC).

28 TAC 134.403 (f) states in pertinent part the reimbursement calculation used for establishing the MAR shall be the Medicare facility specific amount, including outlier payment amounts, determined by applying the most recently adopted and effective Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) reimbursement formula and factors as published annually in the *Federal Register*.

The Medicare facility specific amount is calculated when the APC payment rate is multiplied by 60% to determine the labor portion. This amount is multiplied by the facility wage index for the date of service. The non-labor amount is determined when the APC payment rate is multiplied by 40%. The sum of the labor portion multiplied by the facility wage index and the non-labor portion determines the Medicare specific amount. Review of the submitted medical bill and the applicable fee guidelines referenced above is shown below.

- Procedure code J1100 has status indicator N, for packaged codes integral to the total service package with no separate payment.
- Procedure code 96372 has status indicator Q1. Reimbursement is packaged with payment for any service assigned status indicator S, T or V.
- Procedure code 99283 has status indicator J2 when billed with 8 or more hours observation billed. Comprehensive packaging criteria not met, this code is assigned APC 5023 with status indicator V.

The OPPS Addendum A rate is \$223.34 multiplied by 60% for an unadjusted labor amount of \$134.00, in turn multiplied by facility wage index 0.9655 for an adjusted labor amount of \$129.38.

The non-labor portion is 40% of the APC rate, or \$89.34.

The sum of the labor and non-labor portions is \$218.72.

The Medicare facility specific amount is \$218.72 multiplied by 200% for a MAR of \$437.44.

- Procedure code J1885 has status indicator N, for packaged codes integral to the total service package with no separate payment.

3. The total recommended reimbursement for the disputed services is \$437.44. The insurance carrier paid \$0.00. The amount due is \$437.44. This amount is recommended.

Conclusion

The outcome of this medical fee dispute is based on the evidence presented by the requestor and the respondent at the time of adjudication. Though all evidence may not have been discussed, it was considered.

DWC finds the requester has established that additional reimbursement of \$437.44 is due.

Order

Under Texas Labor Code §§413.031 and 413.019, DWC has determined the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services. It is ordered that Safety National Casualty Corp must remit to Hunt Regional Medical Center \$437.44 plus applicable accrued interest within 30 days of receiving this order in accordance with 28 TAC §134.130.

Authorized Signature

_____	_____	February 3, 2022
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 under 28 TAC §133.307, which applies to disputes filed on or after **June 1, 2012**.

A party seeking review must submit DWC Form-045M, *Request to Schedule, Reschedule, or Cancel a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision (BRC-MFD)* and follow the instructions on the form. You can find the form at www.tdi.texas.gov/forms/form20numeric.html. DWC must receive the request within **20 days** of when you receive this decision. You may fax, mail, or personally deliver your request to DWC using the contact information on the form or the field office handling the claim. If you have questions about DWC Form-045M, please call CompConnection at 1-800-252-7031, option 3 or email CompConnection@tdi.texas.gov.

The party seeking review of the MFDR decision must 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*** with any other required information listed in 28 TAC §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 1-800-252-7031, opción 3 o correo electrónico CompConnection@tdi.texas.gov.