



Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision

General Information

Requestor Name

Baylor Orthopedic & Spine Hospital

Respondent Name

Phoenix Insurance Co

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-22-0897-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 05

DWC Date Received

January 14, 2022

Summary of Findings

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
May 12, 2021	25320	\$3,361.68	\$3,361.68
	Total	\$3,361.68	\$3,361.68

Requestor's Position

The requestor did not submit a position statement but did submit a copy of their request for reconsideration that states, "According to TX workers compensation fee schedule the expected reimbursement for DOS 5/12/2021 is \$12,213.39. Previous payment received total \$8851.71 leaving a balance of \$3,361.88."

Amount in Dispute: \$3,361.68

Respondent's Position

The Carrier has reviewed the documentation and contends the Provider has been reimbursed at the appropriate rate. The primary code 25320 was reimbursed pursuant to the Applicable Medicare base rate and Division modifier at \$7,938.71. Additionally, the implantables were reimbursed at cost plus 10% for the amount of \$913. All other codes are inclusive to the primary coded procedure. The Carrier has reviewed the Maximum Allowable Reimbursement Calculation and contends the

reimbursement is correct as calculated.

Response submitted by: Travelers

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 fee guidelines for outpatient hospital services.

Denial Reasons

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

- 97 – Payment adjusted because the benefit for this service is included in the payment/allowance for another service/procedure that has already been adjudicated
- 251 – The attachment/other documentation that was received was incomplete or deficient. The necessary information is still needed to process the claim
- P12 – Workers' Compensation Jurisdictional fee schedule adjustment
- W3 – Bill is a reconsideration or appeal

Issues

1. Did the requestor seek separate reimbursement for the implantables?
2. What rule applies for determining reimbursement for the disputed services?
3. Is the requester entitled to additional reimbursement?

Findings

1. The respondent states in their position statement their reimbursement was based on separate request for implants. Review of the submitted information with the request for MFDR does not support that the requestor sought separate reimbursement on the medical bill. The respondent's position is not supported. The disputed charges will be reviewed per applicable fee guidelines.
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. This amount is multiplied by 200% when separate reimbursement of implants is not requested.

Review of the submitted medical bill and the applicable fee guidelines referenced above is shown below.

- Procedure code 25320 has status indicator J1, for procedures paid at a comprehensive rate. All covered services on the bill are packaged with the primary "J1" procedure. This code is assigned APC 5114.

The OPPS Addendum A rate is \$6,264.95 multiplied by 60% for an unadjusted labor amount of \$3,758.97, in turn multiplied by facility wage index 0.9579 for an adjusted labor amount of \$3,600.72.

The non-labor portion is 40% of the APC rate, or \$2,505.98.

The sum of the labor and non-labor portions is \$6,264.95.

The Medicare facility specific amount is \$6,264.95 multiplied by 200% for a MAR of \$12,529.90.

2. The total recommended reimbursement for the disputed services is \$12,529.90. The insurance carrier paid \$8,821.71. The requestor is seeking additional reimbursement of \$3,361.88. 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 requestor has established that additional reimbursement of \$3,361.88 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 Phoenix Insurance Co must remit to Baylor Orthopedic and Spine Hospital \$3,361.88 plus applicable accrued interest within 30 days of receiving this order in accordance with 28 TAC §134.130.

Authorized Signature

Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

January 27, 2022

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.