



Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision

General Information

Requestor Name

PAIN & RECOVERY CLINIC

Respondent Name

XL INSURANCE COMPANY

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-22-1792-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 19

DWC Date Received

April 21, 2022

Summary of Findings

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
February 18, 2022	97799-CP-CA-GP x 7 units	\$875.00	\$875.00
Total		\$875.00	\$875.00

Requestor's Position

"We feel that our facility should be paid according to the fee schedule guidelines, We are a CARF accredited facility and should not be subject to the twenty percent fee schedule reduction."

Amount in Dispute: \$875.00

Respondent's Position

"Our initial response to the above referenced medical fee dispute resolution is as follows: we have escalated the bills in question for manual review to determine if additional monies are owed. We will provide a supplemental response once the bill auditing company has finalized their review."

Response Submitted by: Gallagher Bassett

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 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 TAC §134.230, sets out the reimbursement guidelines for return-to-work rehabilitation programs.
3. 28 TAC §134.600 sets out the Preauthorization, Concurrent Utilization Review, and Voluntary Certification of Health Care.

Denial Reasons

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

- 197 – Payment denied/reduced for absence of precertification/authorization.
- Note: Number of services exceed utilization agreement.
- 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly.

Issues

1. Is the Insurance Carrier's denial reason supported?
2. Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement?

Findings

1. The requestor seeks reimbursement for CPT Code 97799-CP-CA-GP rendered on February 18, 2022. The insurance carrier denied the charge due to the absence of precertification, authorization.

28 TAC §134.600 (p) states, "non-emergency health care requiring preauthorization includes: (10) chronic pain management/interdisciplinary pain rehabilitation..."

The requestor submitted a copy of a preauthorization letter issued by Coventry dated January 7, 2022, preauthorizing Chronic Pain Management Program x 80 hours 97799 with a start date of January 7, 2022 and an end date of March 7, 2022.

28 TAC §134.600 (c) (1) (B) states in pertinent part, "(c) The insurance carrier is liable for all reasonable and necessary medical costs relating to the health care: (1) listed in subsection (p) or (q) of this section only when the following situations occur... (B) preauthorization of any health care listed in subsection (p) of this section that was approved prior to providing the health care..."

The DWC finds that the service in dispute was rendered within the preauthorized timeframes. As a result, the insurance carrier's denial reason is not supported, and the requestor is therefore, entitled to reimbursement for the services in dispute.

2. The fee guideline for chronic pain management services is found in 28 TAC §134.230.

28 TAC §134.230(1)(A) states "Accreditation by the CARF is recommended, but not required. (A) If the program is CARF accredited, modifier "CA" shall follow the appropriate program modifier as designated for the specific programs listed below. The hourly reimbursement for a CARF accredited program shall be 100 percent of the maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR)..."

28 TAC §134.230(5) states, "The following shall be applied for billing and reimbursement of Chronic Pain Management/Interdisciplinary Pain Rehabilitation Programs. (A) Program shall be billed and reimbursed using CPT code 97799 with modifier "CP" for each hour. The number of hours shall be indicated in the unit's column on the bill. CARF accredited programs shall add "CA" as a second modifier. (B) Reimbursement shall be \$125 per hour. Units of less than one hour shall be prorated in 15-minute increments. A single 15-minute increment may be billed and reimbursed if greater than or equal to eight minutes and less than 23 minutes."

The requestor billed 97799-CP-CA-GP; therefore, the disputed program is CARF accredited, and reimbursement shall be 100% of the MAR.

Review of the submitted documentation finds that the requestor billed CPT Code 97799-CP and appended modifier –CA to identify that the chronic pain management program is CARF accredited, as a result, reimbursement is calculated per 28 TAC §134.230(1)(A) and 28 TAC §134.230(5)(A)-(B).

DOS	CPT Code	# Units	Amount in Dispute	IC Paid	MAR \$125/hour	Amount Due
2/18/22	97799-CP-CA	7	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$875.00	\$875.00
TOTALS		7	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$875.00	\$875.00

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.

The DWC finds the requester has established that reimbursement of \$875.00 is due.

Order

Under Texas Labor Code §§413.031 and 413.019, DWC has determined the requestor is entitled to reimbursement for the disputed services. It is ordered that the Respondent must remit to the Requestor \$875.00 plus applicable accrued interest within 30 days of receiving this order in accordance with 28 TAC §134.130.

Authorized Signature

_____	_____	July 7, 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.