TDI Division of Workers' Compensation
PO Box 12050 | Austin, TX 78711 | 800-252-7031 | tdi.texas.gov/wc

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision

General Information

Requestor Name
MHHS Hermann Hospital

Respondent Name
American Casualty Co of Reading PA

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-23-2917-01

Carrier's Austin Representative
Box Number 57

DWC Date Received
July 17, 2023

Summary of Findings

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
October 20 – 28, 2022	Inpatient	$99,718.00	$0.00
	Total	$99,718.00	$0.00

Requestor's Position

"My bill and medical records submission have been denied for timely filing. As timely submission was through no fault of the provider, we do not believe the denial was correct. A reconsideration was submitted but also denied. The provider was not aware that we had incorrect claim information in order to submit a "clean claim. …She advised me to resubmit a reconsideration stating a clean claim was not submitted timely as I was not informed of the correct claim number and date of injury, which was also incorrect, until 01/24/23. I submitted a second request for reconsideration on 05/16/23. I received an EOB dated 05/24/23 and it was denied as a duplicate/payment or denial has already been recommended."

Amount in Dispute: $99,718.00

Respondent's Position

"Carrier respectfully requests an order of no additional reimbursement due as the bills were not properly submitted to the Respondent in compliance with the Texas Labor Code and the Administrative Rules."

Response Submitted by: Law Office of Brian J. Judis

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).

Statues and Rules

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 TAC §134.20 sets out requirements of medical bill submission.
3. Texas Labor Code 408.0272 sets out the workers compensation timely billing and exceptions guidelines.

Denial Reasons

The insurance carrier denied the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes.

- 29 – The time limit for filing has expired.
- 4271 – Per TX Labor Code Sec 408.027, providers must submit bills to payors withing 95 days of the date of service.
- W3 – Bill is a reconsideration or appeal.
- 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly.
- 1014 – The attached billing has been re-evaluated at the request of the provider. Based on this re-evaluation, we find our original review to be correct. Therefore, no additional allowance appears to be warranted.
- 2005 – No additional reimbursement allowed after review of appeal/reconsideration.

Issues

1. Did the requestor support timely submission of medical claim?

Findings

1. The requestor is seeking reimbursement for inpatient hospital services rendered in October of 2022. The insurance carrier denied the claim as not submitted timely. The following two rules apply to receipt of medical bills.

   DWC Rule 28 TAC §102.4 (h) Unless the great weight of evidence indicates otherwise, written communications will be deemed to have been sent on:

   (1) the date received if sent by fax, personal delivery, or electronic transmission; or

   (2) the date postmarked if sent by mail through United States Postal Service regular mail, or, if the postmark date is unavailable, the later of the signature date on the written communication or the date it was received minus five days. If the date received minus five days is a Sunday or legal holiday, the date deemed sent must be the next previous day that is not a Sunday or legal holiday.

   DWC Rule 28 TAC §133.20 (b) states in pertinent part,

   (b) Except as provided in Labor Code §408.0272(b), (c) or (d), a health care provider shall not submit a medical bill later than the 95th day after the date the services are provided.

   Texas Labor Code 408.0272. (b) states in pertinent part,

   (b) Notwithstanding Section 408.0272, a health care provider who fails to timely submit a claim for payment to the insurance carrier under Section 408.0272(a) does not forfeit the provider's right to reimbursement for that claim for payment solely for failure to submit a timely claim if:

   (1) the provider submits proof satisfactory to the commissioner that the provider, within the period prescribed by Section 408.027(a), erroneously filed for reimbursement with:

   (A) an insurer that issues a policy of group accident and health insurance under which the injured employee is a covered insured;

   (B) a health maintenance organization that issues an evidence of coverage under which the injured employee is a covered enrollee; or

   (C) a workers' compensation insurance carrier other than the insurance carrier liable for the payment of benefits under this title;

   (2) the commissioner determines that the failure resulted from a catastrophic event that substantially interfered with the normal business operations of the provider.

The requestor submitted documents detailing how the claim was submitted but rejected for invalid information. Incorrect claim and date of injury are not exceptions to the time limit for submitting a claim.

No payment 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 not established that additional reimbursement is due.

Order

Under Texas Labor Code §§413.031 and 413.019, DWC has determined the requestor is not entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

		August 9, 2023
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 electronico CompConnection@tdi.texas.gov.