



Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision

General Information

Requestor Name

Peak Integrated Healthcare

Respondent Name

XL Specialty Insurance Co.

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-24-0249-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 19

DWC Date Received

October 4, 2023

Summary of Findings

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
June 5, 2023	97750-GP	\$531.04	\$0.00
Total		\$531.04	\$0.00

Requestor's Position

"This is not an exact duplicate claim/dos. This date of service has not been paid and patient has compensable injury..."

Amount in Dispute: \$531.04

Respondent's Supplemental Position

"The Provider contends they are entitled to additional reimbursement for the disputed services. Please note that the Provider fails to document the original reimbursement on the Table of Disputed Services... The Carrier has reviewed the documentation and determined the Provider was properly reimbursed for the disputed services, due to the application of the multiple procedure rule. No additional reimbursement is due... "

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 §134.203](#) sets out the fee guidelines for reimbursement of professional medical services provided in the Texas workers' compensation system.

Adjustment Reasons

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

- 163 – The charge for this procedure exceeds the unit value and/or the multiple procedure rules.
- 119 – Benefit maximum for this time period or occurrence has been reached.
- 18 – EXACT DUPLICATE CLAIM/SERVICE
- 247 – A PAYMENT OR DENIAL HAS ALREADY BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR THIS SERVICE.

Issues

1. Has the requestor been previously reimbursed for the disputed service?
2. Is the insurance carrier's reimbursement reduction reason supported?
3. Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement for CPT Code 97750-GP?

Findings

1. A review of the submitted documents finds that on the disputed date of service, June 5, 2023, the requestor billed \$531.04 for 8 units of CPT code 97750-GP. Explanation of benefits (EOB) documents submitted finds that on June 30, 2023, the insurance carrier issued payment in the amount of \$404.27 for the service in dispute. Therefore, DWC finds that the requestor has previously been reimbursed a reduced amount of their charges.

2. The insurance carrier reduced reimbursement for disputed service, CPT Code 97750-GP x8 units, rendered on June 5, 2023, with reason code 163, defined above.

CPT Code 97750-GP is defined as "Physical performance test or measurement (e.g., musculoskeletal, functional capacity), with written report, each 15 minutes."

The requestor appended the "GP" modifier to code 97750. The "GP" modifier is described as "Services delivered under an outpatient physical therapy plan of care."

28 TAC §134.203(b)(1), which applies to the reimbursement of 97750-GP, states, "For coding, billing, reporting, and reimbursement of professional medical services, Texas workers' compensation system participants shall apply the following: (1) Medicare payment policies,

including its coding; billing; correct coding initiatives (CCI) edits; modifiers; bonus payments for health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) and physician scarcity areas (PSAs); and other payment policies in effect on the date a service is provided with any additions or exceptions in the rules.”

Medicare Claims Processing Manual Chapter 5, 10.3.7-effective June 6, 2016, titled Multiple Procedure Payment Reductions (MPPR) for Outpatient Rehabilitation Services, states:

Full payment is made for the unit or procedure with the highest PE payment. For subsequent units and procedures with dates of service prior to April 1, 2013, furnished to the same patient on the same day, full payment is made for work and malpractice and 80 percent payment is made for the PE for services submitted on professional claims (any claim submitted using the ASC X12 837 professional claim format or the CMS-1500 paper claim form) and 75 percent payment is made for the PE for services submitted on institutional claims (ASC X12 837 institutional claim format or Form CMS-1450).

For subsequent units and procedures with dates of service on or after April 1, 2013, furnished to the same patient on the same day, full payment is made for work and malpractice and 50 percent payment is made for the PE for services submitted on either professional or institutional claims.

To determine which services will receive the MPPR, contractors shall rank services according to the applicable PE relative value units (RVU) and price the service with the highest PE RVU at 100% and apply the appropriate MPPR to the remaining services. When the highest PE RVU applies to more than one of the identified services, contractors shall additionally sort and rank these services according to highest total fee schedule amount, and price the service with the highest total fee schedule amount at 100% and apply the appropriate MPPR to the remaining services.

DWC finds that the MPPR discounting rule applies to the reimbursement of 8 units of CPT code 97750-GP rendered on June 5, 2023. Therefore, the insurance carrier’s reduction reason is supported.

3. The requestor seeks additional reimbursement for CPT code 97750-GP x 8 units rendered on June 5, 2023. CPT Code 97750-GP is defined as “Physical performance test or measurement (e.g., musculoskeletal, functional capacity), with written report, each 15 minutes.”

Per CMS’ Billing and Coding: Outpatient Physical and Occupational Therapy Services, Article ID A56566, effective October 1, 2020:

These tests and measurements are beyond the usual evaluation services performed. Examples of physical performance tests or measurements include isokinetic testing, Functional Capacity Evaluation (FCE) and Tinetti. This code may be used for the 6-minute walk test, with a computerized report of the patient’s oxygen saturation levels with increasing stress levels, performed under a PT or OT plan of care on pulmonary rehabilitation patients.

The therapy evaluation and re-evaluation codes are for a comprehensive review of the patient including, but not limited to, history, systems review, current

clinical findings, establishment of a therapy diagnosis, and estimation of the prognosis and determination and/or revision of further treatment. CPT 97750 is intended to focus on patient performance of a specific activity or group of activities (CPT Assistant, December 2003).

There must be written evidence documenting the problem requiring the test, the specific test performed, and a separate measurement report. This report may include torque curves and other graphic reports with interpretation.

97750 should not be used to bill for patient assessments/re-assessments such as ROM testing or manual muscle testing completed at the start of care (as this is typically part of the examination included in the initial evaluation) and/or as the patient progresses through the episode of treatment.

Supportive Documentation Requirements (required at least every 10 visits) for 97750

- Problem requiring the test and the specific test performed
- Separate measurement report, including any graphic reports
- Application to functional activity
- How the test impacts the plan of care

Review of submitted medical documentation finds that on the disputed date of service, the healthcare provider documented a two hour (8 units) physical performance evaluation of the same injured employee named on the medical bill. DWC finds that documentation of the disputed service, 97750-GP, rendered on June 5, 2023, is in compliance with requirements outlined above.

28 TAC §134.203 (c)(1) which applies to the reimbursement of the disputed service, states, "To determine the maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR) for professional services, system participants shall apply the Medicare payment policies with minimal modifications. (1) For service categories of Evaluation & Management, General Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Radiology, Pathology, Anesthesia, and Surgery when performed in an office setting, the established conversion factor to be applied is \$52.83..."

On the disputed date of service, the requestor billed CPT code 97550-GP x 8 units. As demonstrated above, DWC finds that the MPPR rule applies to 97750-GP.

The MPPR Rate File that contains the payments for 2023 services is found at:

www.cms.gov/Medicare/Billing/TherapyServices/index.html.

To determine the MAR the following formula is used:

$(\text{DWC Conversion Factor} / \text{Medicare Conversion Factor}) \times \text{Medicare Payment} = \text{MAR}$.

- MPPR rates are published by carrier and locality.
- The disputed date of service is June 5, 2023
- The disputed service was rendered in zip code 75211, locality 11, Dallas; carrier 4412.
- The Medicare participating amount for CPT code 97750 in 2023 at this locality is \$34.70 for the first unit, and \$25.23 for the subsequent 7 units.

- The 2023 DWC Conversion Factor is 64.83
- The 2023 Medicare Conversion Factor is 33.8872.
- Using the above formula, the DWC finds the MAR is \$404.25
- The respondent paid \$404.27.
- Additional reimbursement is not recommended.

DWC finds that the requestor is not entitled to additional reimbursement.

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 that the requestor has not established that additional reimbursement is due.

Order

Under Texas Labor Code §§413.031 and 413.019, DWC has determined the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 additional reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

		October 26, 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 electrónico CompConnection@tdi.texas.gov.