



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation - Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MS-48)

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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name

WEATHERFORD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 54

MFDR Date Received

May 7, 2012

Respondent Name

TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-12-2853

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "Please reconsider this claim... Patient came in stating he was in pain so we treated him."

Amount in Dispute: \$753.85

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "Texas Mutual Claim [claim number] is in the Texas Star Network. The requestor is in the same network...The requestor is prohibited from medical fee dispute resolution with the Division and should follow the Network's complaint resolution process instead with Coventry workers' Comp Services."

Response Submitted by: Texas Mutual Insurance Company

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

| Date(s) of Service | Disputed Service(s) | Amount In Dispute | Amount Due |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| December 31, 2011 | 99283, 96372 and J1885 | \$753.85 | \$0.00 |

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305, sets out the procedures for resolving medical disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, sets out the procedures for resolving a medical fee dispute.
3. Texas Insurance Code Chapter 1305 applicable to Health Care Certified Networks.
4. 28 Texas Administrative Code §§10.120 through 10.122 address the submission of a complaint by a health care provider to the Health Care Network.

Issues

1. Did the in-network healthcare provider render services to an in-network injured employee?
2. Is the requestor eligible for medical fee dispute resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §§133.305 and 133.307?
3. Does TDI rules at 28 Texas Administrative Code §§10.120 through 10.122 address the submission of a Health Care Network complaint by a health care provider?

Findings

- 1. The requestor billed for CPT Codes 99283, 96372 and J1885 rendered on December 31, 2011 to an injured employee enrolled in a certified healthcare network. The insurance carrier’s response indicates that both the healthcare provider and the injured employee are enrolled in a certified healthcare network. The requestor seeks a decision from the Division’s medical fee dispute resolution (MFDR) section.

The Division notified the requestor on May 24, 2012 that the disputed services were provided to an injured employee enrolled in a certified network. The notification letter contained information/documentation outlining the dispute path for in-network providers and out-of-network providers. The authority for MFDR to resolve matters involving employees enrolled in a certified health care network is conditional.

- 2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305 (a) (4) defines a medical fee dispute as “A dispute that involves an amount of payment for **non-network** health care rendered to an injured employee (employee) that has been determined to be medically necessary and appropriate for treatment of that employee's compensable injury. The dispute is resolved by the Division pursuant to Division rules, including §133.307 of this subchapter (relating to MDR of Fee Disputes).” Non-network health care is defined in Section (a) (6) of the same rule as “Health care not delivered, or arranged by a certified workers compensation health care network as defined in Insurance Code Chapter 1305 and related rules...”

Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 (a) (3) “...In resolving **non-network** disputes which are over the amount of payment due for health care determined to be medically necessary and appropriate for treatment of a compensable injury, the role of the Division of Workers' Compensation (Division) is to adjudicate the payment, given the relevant statutory provisions and Division rules.” Adjudicating the fees for the disputed services would involve enforcing a law, regulation, or other provision related to the price of the emergency room services provided by an in-network health care provider to an in-network injured employee. The Division finds the disputed services are not under the jurisdiction of the Division of Workers’ Compensation and therefore are not eligible for medical fee dispute resolution under 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307.

- 3. The Division finds that the disputed services were rendered by an in-network healthcare provider to an in-network injured employee. The TDI rules at 28 Texas Administrative Code §§10.120 through 10.122 address the submission of a complaint by a health care provider to the Health Care Network. The Division finds that the disputed services may be filed to the TDI Complaint Resolution Process, if the health care provider or facility is dissatisfied with the outcome of the network complaint process. The complaint process outlined in Texas Insurance Code Subchapter I, §1305.401 - §1305.405 may be the appropriate administrative remedy to address fee matters related to health care certified networks.

Conclusion

The Division would like to emphasize that individual medical fee dispute outcomes rely upon the evidence presented by the requestor and respondent during dispute resolution. This decision is based upon a review of all the evidence presented by the parties in this dispute. Even though all the evidence was not discussed, it was considered. The Division finds that this dispute is not under the jurisdiction of the Division of Workers’ Compensation and is therefore not eligible for medical fee dispute resolution under 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

June 30, 2016
Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute may appeal this decision by requesting a contested case hearing. A completed **Request for a Medical Contested Case Hearing** (form **DWC045A**) must be received by the DWC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. A request for hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceedings, Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers Compensation, P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas, 78744. The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request for a hearing to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §148.3(c), including a **certificate of service demonstrating that the request has been sent to the other party.**

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.