Texas Department of Insurance
Division of Workers' Compensation
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 • Austin, Texas 78744-1645
512-804-4000 telephone • 512-804-4811 fax • www.tdi.texas.gov

MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name and Address

SINGLETON WRIGHT
121 NE LOOP 820 #100
HURST TX 76053

Respondent Name
NEW HAMPSHIRE INSURANCE CO

Carrier's Austin Representative Box
Box Number 19

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-13-0962-01

MFDR Date Received
December 14, 2012

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "In regards to [Injured Worker] our office has made several attempts to receive payment for services rendered on December 14, 2011. The claim was sent to Gallagher Bassett in a timely manner and we never received payment."

Amount in Dispute: $1,300.00

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: No response received from the carrier.

Response Submitted by: n/a

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
December 14, 2011	CPT Code 99456 W5-WP and 99456-W8	$1,300.00	$650.00

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 §133.307 amended to be effective May 31, 2012, *37 Texas Register 3833*,applicable to medical fee dispute resolution requests filed on or after June 1, 2012, sets out the procedures for resolving a medical fee dispute.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code§134.204 sets out the fee guideline for workers' compensation specific services on or after March 1, 2008.
3. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:

   Explanation of benefits dated January 10, 2012

   - 16 – Claim/service lacks information which is needed for adjudication
   - 4 – The procedure code is inconsistent with the modifier used or a required modifier is misisng

Issues

1. Were the services billed in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.204?
2. Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement for the disputed services under 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.204?

Findings

1. Requestor billed with CPT Code 99456-W5-WP in the amount of $650.00 for two units and CPT Code 99456-W8 for $500.00 for two units for a Maximum Medical Improvement (MMI), Impairment Rating (IR) and Return to Work Examination.

   Per Administrative Code §134.204 states (j) Maximum Medical Improvement and/or Impairment Rating (MMI/IR) examinations shall be billed and reimbursed as follows, (1) The total MAR for an MMI/IR examination shall be equal to the MMI evaluation reimbursement plus the reimbursement for the body area(s) evaluated for the assignment of an IR. The MMI/IR examination shall include, (3) The following applies for billing and reimbursement of an MMI evaluation, (C) An examining doctor, other than the treating doctor, shall bill using CPT Code 99456. Reimbursement shall be $350, (4) The following applies for billing and reimbursement of an IR evaluation, (C) For musculoskeletal body areas, the examining doctor may bill for a maximum of three body areas, (i) Musculoskeletal body areas are defined as follows, (I) spine and pelvis; (II) upper extremities and hands; and, (III) lower extremities (including feet), (ii) The MAR for musculoskeletal body areas shall be as follows, (I) $150 for each body area if the Diagnosis Related Estimates (DRE) method found in the AMA Guides 4th edition is used, (II) If full physical evaluation, with range of motion, is performed, (-a-) $300 for the first musculoskeletal body area; and (-b-) $150 for each additional musculoskeletal body area and (k) The following shall apply to Return to Work (RTW) and/or Evaluation of Medical Care (EMC) Examinations. When conducting a Division or insurance carrier requested RTW/EMC examination, the examining doctor shall bill and be reimbursed using CPT Code 99456 with modifier "RE." In either instance of whether MMI/IR is performed or not, the reimbursement shall be $500 in accordance with subsection (i) of this section and shall include Division-required reports. Testing that is required shall be billed using the appropriate CPT codes and reimbursed in addition to the examination fee.

   Documentation reviewed supports that a request for Designated Doctor Examination requested to address the following exams of Maximum Medical Improvement (MMI), Impairment Rating (IR) and Return to Work (RTW) with two body areas (lumbar and upper extremity) rated using Range of Motion (ROM) method. However the examining doctor failed to bill the requested exams properly as mentioned above as requested and supported.

   The total allowable amount for CPT Code is 99456-W5-WP is $800.00, however documentation shows that the provider billed CPT Code 99456-W5-WP in the amount of $650.00 therefore, reimbursement of $650.0 will be allowed. CPT Code 99456-W8 is not supported as the examining doctor did not use the “RE” modifier for the Return to Work (RTW) examination therefore, no allowable amount is due.

2. The respondent issued payment in the amount of $0.00. Based upon the documentation submitted, additional reimbursement in the amount of $650.00 is recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the division finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code Sections 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the services involved in this dispute. The Division hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor the amount of $650.00 plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this Order.

Authorized Signature

		2/13/14
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 in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, effective May 31, 2012, *37 Texas Register 3833*, **applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012**.

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request 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 §141.1(d).

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