



Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision

General Information

Requestor Name
Kimberly Farrington, D.C.

Respondent Name
Texas Mutual Insurance Co.

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-24-1916-01

Carrier's Austin Representative
Box Number 54

DWC Date Received
May 1, 2024

Summary of Findings

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
May 26, 2023	Designated Doctor Examination 99456-W5-WP	\$650.00	\$0.00
Total		\$650.00	\$0.00

Requestor's Position

"This bill has never been paid. I would appreciate your assistance."

Amount in Dispute: \$650.00

Respondent's Position

"Texas Mutual on 2/22/24 received the first complete medical bill from OPTIMUM WELLNESS & REHAB CENTER... The[sic] was no rationale given by the requestor for the late bill consistent with the Rule above. Our position is that no payment is due."

Response Submitted by: Texas Mutual Insurance Co.

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 Medical Fee Dispute Resolution requests.
2. [28 TAC §133.20](#) sets out requirements of medical bill submission by health care providers.

Denial Reasons

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

- 29 – THE TIME LIMIT FOR FILING CLAIM/BILL HAS EXPIRED.
- 731 – PER 133.20(8) PROVIDER SHALL NOT SUBMIT A MEDICAL BILL LATER THAN THE 95TH DAY AFTER THE DATE OF THE SERVICE.

Issues

1. Has the requestor waived their right to medical fee dispute resolution?

Findings

1. The requestor is seeking \$650.00 for a disputed designated doctor examination rendered on May 26, 2023.

28 TAC §133.20 which sets out requirements of timely medical bill submission, 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. In accordance with subsection (c) of the statute, the health care provider shall submit the medical bill to the correct workers' compensation insurance carrier not later than the 95th day after the date the health care provider is notified of the health care provider's erroneous submission of the medical bill. A health care provider who submits a medical bill to the correct workers' compensation insurance carrier shall include a copy of the original medical bill submitted, a copy of the explanation of benefits (EOB) if available, and sufficient documentation to support why one or more of the exceptions for untimely submission of a medical bill under §408.0272 should be applied."

Texas Labor Code §408.0272(b) which sets out certain exceptions for untimely submission of a claim, states "(b) Notwithstanding Section [408.027](#), a health care provider who fails to timely submit a claim for payment to the insurance carrier under Section [408.027](#)(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; or (2) the commissioner determines that the failure resulted from a catastrophic event that substantially interfered with the normal business operations of the provider.”

Per documentation submitted, DWC finds that the earliest date the medical bill in dispute was received by the insurance carrier was on February 22, 2024, more than 95 days after the disputed date of service of May 26, 2023.

DWC finds no documentation that any of the exceptions to the 95-day timely filing rule, set out in Labor Code §408.0272, exist in this dispute.

Based on the submitted documentation, DWC finds the requestor is not entitled to 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 the requestor has not established that reimbursement is due.

Order

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

Authorized Signature:

May 30, 2024

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, 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.tas.gov.