

# MEDICAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

## PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Type of Requestor:</b> (x) HCP ( ) IE ( ) IC	<b>Response Timely Filed?</b> ( ) Yes (x) No
Requestor's Name and Address HCA Healthcare 6000 NW Parkway San Antonio, Texas 78249	MDR Tracking No.: M4-05-0710-01
	TWCC No.:
	Injured Employee's Name:
Respondent's Name and Address TML INTERGOVERNMENTAL RISK POOL 1821 RUTHERFORD LN STE 100 AUSTIN TX 787545163 Box 19	Date of Injury:
	Employer's Name:
	Insurance Carrier's No.: 900000932

## PART II: SUMMARY OF DISPUTE AND FINDINGS

Dates of Service		CPT Code(s) or Description	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
From	To			
05-28-04	06-01-04	Surgical Admission	\$37,311.07	\$16.50

## PART III: REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Per TWCC contract total charges exceeding \$40,000 are reimbursed @ 75%. Audited charges are patient convenience items and non-covered charges.

## PART IV: RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

This is a medical fee dispute arising from an inpatient hospital surgical admission, dates of service 05-28-04 through 06-01-04. Requestor billed a total of \$60,802.09. The Requestor asserts it is entitled to reimbursement in the amount of \$45,601.57, which is 75% of the total charges. Requestor has not shown entitlement to this alternative, exceptional method of calculating reimbursement and has not otherwise properly calculated the audited charges.

## PART V: MEDICAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION REVIEW SUMMARY, METHODOLOGY, AND/OR EXPLANATION

This dispute relates to inpatient services provided in hospital setting with reimbursement subject to the provisions of Rule 134.401 (Acute Care Inpatient Hospital Fee Guideline). The hospital has requested additional reimbursement according to the stop-loss method contained in that rule. Rule 134.401(c)(6) establishes that the stop-loss method is to be used for "unusually costly services." The explanation that follows this paragraph indicates that in order to determine if "unusually costly services" were provided, the admission must not only exceed \$40,000 in total audited charges, but also involve "unusually extensive services."

After reviewing the documentation provided by the provider, primary procedure of L5-S1 laminectomy, discectomy and fusion, and the patient being discharged on the fourth postoperative day, walking independently, with no untoward medical problems, it does **not** appear that this particular admission involved "unusually extensive services." Accordingly, the stop-loss method does not apply and the reimbursement is to be based on the per diem plus carve-out methodology described in the same rule.

The total length of stay for this admission was four (4) days (consisting of 4 days for surgical). Accordingly, the standard per diem amount due for this admission is equal to \$4,472.00 (4 times \$1,118.00). In addition, the hospital is entitled to additional reimbursement for (implantables/MRIs/CAT Scans/pharmaceuticals) as follows:

- An invoice from Zimmer US Inc in the amount of \$1,894.00 X 110% = \$2,083.40
- An invoice from Zimmer Spine in the amount of \$3,265.00 X 110% = \$3,591.50
- An invoice from Scient'X USA in the amount of \$6,650.00 X 110% = \$7,315.00

The carrier has reimbursed the provider \$17,445.40.

Based on the facts of this situation, the parties' positions and the application of the provisions of Rule 134.401(c), we find that the health care provider is entitled to an additional reimbursement amount for these services equal to \$16.50 (\$4,472.00 plus \$2,083.40, plus \$3,591.50, plus \$7,315.00 = \$17,461.90 minus carrier payment of \$17,445.40).

**PART VI: COMMISSION DECISION**

Based upon the review of the disputed healthcare services, the Medical Review Division has determined that the requestor is **is** entitled to additional reimbursement in the amount of \$16.50. The Division hereby **ORDERS** the insurance carrier to remit this amount plus all accrued interest due at the time of payment to the Requestor within 20 days of receipt of this Order.

Ordered by:

04-11-05

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Order

**PART VII: YOUR RIGHT TO REQUEST A HEARING**

Either party to this medical dispute may disagree with all or part of the Decision and has a right to request a hearing. A request for a hearing must be in writing and it must be received by the TWCC Chief Clerk of Proceedings/Appeals Clerk within 20 (twenty) days of your receipt of this decision (28 Texas Administrative Code § 148.3). This Decision was mailed to the health care provider and placed in the Austin Representatives box on \_\_\_\_\_. This Decision is deemed received by you five days after it was mailed and the first working day after the date the Decision was placed in the Austin Representative's box (28 Texas Administrative Code § 102.5(d)). A request for a hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceedings/Appeals Clerk, P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas, 78744 or faxed to (512) 804-4011. A copy of this Decision should be attached to the request.

The party appealing the Division's Decision shall deliver a copy of their written request for a hearing to the opposing party involved in the dispute.

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

**PART VIII: INSURANCE CARRIER DELIVERY CERTIFICATION**

I hereby verify that I received a copy of this Decision and Order in the Austin Representative's box.

Signature of Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_