

MDR Tracking Number: M4-05-1072-01

Under the provisions of Section 413.031 of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Title 5, Subtitle A of the Texas Labor Code, effective June 17, 2001 and Commission Rule 133.305, titled Medical Dispute Resolution-General, and 133.307, titled Medical Dispute Resolution of a Medical Fee Dispute, a review was conducted by the Division regarding a medical fee dispute between the requestor and the respondent named above. This dispute was received on 10-12-04.

I. DISPUTE

Whether there should be additional reimbursement for CPT code 22614 billed for date of service 12-11-03.

II. RATIONALE

Review of the requestors' position statement dated 10-27-04 states, "The insurance company is misinterpreting the description of the CPT codes 22612 and 22614. These arthrodesis codes each describe one vertebral body or segment, which in (IW) case was L4, L5 and S1 which totals to three levels and the insurance company paid us only for two: 22612, and one of 22614. They are reading these codes to mean vertebral interspaces. I am attaching copy of the description of these codes from the CPT code book by the AMA. The vertebral interspace codes are 22630 and 22632."

Review of the respondent's position statement dated 11-17-04 states in part, "...Respondent had reviewed the Provider's information, and is in the process of re-evaluating the bills made the basis of this dispute..."

Carrier denied code 22614 as "N- 3rd level arthrodesis was not documented as being performed." Per Medicare, code 22614 refers to arthrodesis, single level; each additional vertebral segment. Operative report states procedure was to L4-L5 and L5-S1. The carrier paid code 22612 and one additional segment, 22614. Per the operative report, a two-level arthrodesis was performed. No additional reimbursement is due.

III. DECISION

Based upon the review of the disputed healthcare services within this request, the Division has determined that the requestor **is not** entitled to reimbursement for CPT code 22614.

The above Findings and Decision is hereby issued this 18th day of February 2005.

Dee Z. Torres
Medical Dispute Resolution Officer
Medical Review Division

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