



MEDICAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Type of Requestor: (x) Health Care Provider () Injured Employee () Insurance Carrier

Requestor's Name and Address:
Vista Medical Center Hospital
4301 Vista
Pasadena, Texas 77504

MDR Tracking No.: M4-05-B090-01

Claim No.:

Injured Employee's Name:

Respondent's Name and Address:
Royal Indemnity Company
P O Box 9008
Addison, Texas 75001-9008
Box 11

Date of Injury:

Employer's Name: Allflex USA, Inc.

Insurance Carrier's No.: 290044943600

PART II: REQUESTOR'S PRINCIPLE DOCUMENTATION AND POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor submitted operative report, discharge summary and position statement. "As discussed in this decision, there is no evidence or denials presented by the Carrier that the prices billed were not Provider's usual and customary charges (which the Hospital must bill under Commission's rules), that the price markup was not consistent with the geographical or other hospital billing practices, or that the final price was not fair and reasonable." The Requestor is seeking an additional reimbursement in the amount of \$33,447.04.

PART III: RESPONDENT'S PRINCIPLE DOCUMENTATION AND POSITION SUMMARY

No position statement was found in the case file. Carrier denies the Requestor additional reimbursement based on the services was not unusually extensive.

PART IV: SUMMARY OF DISPUTE AND FINDINGS

Date(s) of Service	CPT Code(s) or Description	Part V Reference	Additional Amount Due (if any)
09/09/04-09/11/04	Surgical Admission		

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 information provided by both parties, it does **not** appear that this particular admission involved "unusually extensive services." The provider submitted an operative report indicating that a L4-5, L5-S1 laminectomies and foraminotomies was performed, the patient was taken to the PACU in satisfactory condition and no complications were noted. Accordingly, the stop-loss method does not apply and the reimbursement is to be based on the per diem methodology described in the same rule.

Requestor billed \$47,577.38 for the 2 day-stay.

The carrier made reimbursement for the 2-day stay in the amount of \$2,236.00.

Therefore, reimbursement based on per diem is \$2,236.00(2 x \$1,118.00), leaving no additional reimbursement recommended.

Therefore, 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 not entitled to additional reimbursement.

PART VI: GENERAL PAYMENT POLICIES/REFERENCES IMPACTING DECISION

28 Texas Administrative Code Sec. 134.401 (c)(6).

PART VII: DIVISION DECISION AND ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code, Sec. 413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is not entitled to additional reimbursement.

Ordered by:

Michael Bucklin

09/09/05

Authorized Signature

Typed Name

Date of Order

PART VIII: YOUR RIGHT TO REQUEST JUDICIAL REVIEW

Appeals of medical dispute resolution decisions and orders are procedurally made directly to a district court in Travis County [see Texas Labor Code, Sec. 413.031(k), as amended and effective Sept. 1, 2005]. An appeal to District Court must be filed not later than 30 days after the date on which the decision that is the subject of the appeal is final and appealable. The Division is not considered a party to the appeal.

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