

ADVISORY NO. 159

TOPIC: CLARIFICATION OF USE OF FORMS UB-82/UB-92

The TWCC has issued its Advisory 95-02, to notify health care providers and insurance carriers of the following clarifications:

1. Effective June 1, 1995, the Commission will no longer allow use of the UB-82 form. They will only accept UB-92. The change is required in order to simplify the electronic transmission of hospital billing information. Although the UB-92 is an updated version of the UB-82, the difference in the location of required information may cause incorrect data to be transmitted. Dates of service on or after June 1, 1995, must be completed on a UB-92 using the current TWCC-68a instructions.
2. The current TWCC-68a, instructions for the UB-92, require the carrier to manually annotate medical bills with specific information. All carriers (insurance companies, certified self-insurers and governmental entities that individually or collectively self-insure) approved for electronic claims submission may be relieved of manually annotating the bill in accordance with Commission Rule 133.300(e). **This does not relieve the carrier of the responsibility to date stamp each health care provider bill upon receipt as required by subsection 133.300(b).** The annotation required by subsection 133.300(e) continues to apply to all carriers. The date stamp is required in order to determine the payment timeframes and must be included as part of bill processing. Also, to expedite bill processing, the carrier must stamp its Master Business Identification number ("MBI number is assigned to each insurance carrier by the Records Division of the Commission) on paper copies of all medical bills. This MBI requirement supersedes TWCC Advisory 93-05.
3. Reimbursement for out patient hospital services is not currently included in any of the Commission adopted fee guidelines or rules. Carriers must determine a fair and reasonable payment amount for outpatient services pursuant to section 413.011(b) of the Texas Labor Code and Commission Rule 134.1(f). In addition, the health care provider is not required to complete the following items on the UB-92 for outpatient services: type of admission (box 19) and the admitting diagnosis (box 76).