



Designated Doctor and MMI/IR Fees Training

Handout of Definitions, Acronyms, and
Billing Cheat Sheets



Acronyms

- AMA - American Medical Association
- AMA Guides - *AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, 4th Edition*
- DD - Designated doctor
- DRE - Diagnosis related estimate
- DWC - Division of Workers' Compensation
- EOI - Extent of injury
- HCP - Health care provider
- IR - Impairment rating
- MAR - Maximum allowable reimbursement



Acronyms

- MEI - Medicare Economic Index
- MMI - Maximum medical improvement
- MSK - Musculoskeletal
- RD - Referred doctor
- RME - Required medical exam
- ROM - Range of motion
- RTW – Return to work
- Sec. - Sections
- TAC - Texas Administrative Code (Rules)
- TD - Treating doctor

Maximum Medical Improvement

MMI date that is the earliest of:

Clinical: The earliest date after which, based on reasonable medical probability, further material recovery from or lasting improvement to an injury can no longer reasonably be anticipated;
or

Maximum Medical Improvement

Statutory: The expiration of 104 weeks from the date on which income benefits begin to accrue. However, by commissioner's order, the MMI date may be extended due to spinal surgery or approved spinal surgery.



Impairment Rating

IR is a percentage that:

- Reflects the extent of permanent anatomic or functional abnormality or loss resulting from a compensable injury as of the date of MMI.
- Is shown as a percentage of permanent impairment to the whole body.
- Is based on the rating criteria contained in the AMA Guides, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th printing.

Only authorized doctors may assign an IR.

**June 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024
DD MMI, IR, and Other Similar Exams
DD Billing Instructions (28 TAC Sec. 134.240)**

DD Type of Exam/Service	CPT Code	Modifier	2024 Reimbursement (MAR)
Not at MMI exam	99456	NM	\$449
At MMI exam	99456	W5	\$449
IR exam first MSK body area	99456	W5	\$385
IR exam additional MSK body area (max of 3)	99456	W5	\$192
IR exam each non-MSK body area	99456	W5	\$192
Multiple IRs (each additional IR)	99456	W5 MI	\$64
Specialty exam fee (DD only)	99456	25	\$300
EOI exam	99456	W6	\$642
Disability exam	99456	W7	\$642
RTW exam	99456	W8	\$642
Other similar issues exam	99456	W9	\$642
Missed appointment (DD only)	99546	52	\$100

June 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024
RME MMI, IR, and Other Similar Exams
RME Billing Instructions (28 TAC Sec. 134.235)

RME Type of Exam/Service	CPT Code	Modifier	2024 Reimbursement (MAR)
Not at MMI exam	99456	NM	\$449
At MMI exam	99456	n/a	\$449
IR exam first MSK area	99456	n/a	\$385
IR exam each additional MSK body area (max of 3)	99456	n/a	\$192
IR each non-MSK area exam	99456	n/a	\$192
EOI exam	99456	n/a	\$642
Disability exam	99456	n/a	\$642
RTW exam	99456	n/a	\$642
Other similar issues exam	99456	n/a	\$642
Appropriateness of health care (RME only)	99456	n/a	\$642

June 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024
TD MMI and IR Exams
TD Billing Instructions (28 TAC Sec. 134.250)

TD Type of Exam/Service	CPT Code	Modifier	2024 Reimbursement (MAR)
Not at MMI exam	99455	V3, V4, or V5	134.203
At MMI exam	99455	V3, V4, or V5	134.203
IR exam first MSK body area	99455	n/a	\$385
IR each additional MSK body area (max of 3)	99455	n/a	\$192
IR each non-MSK body area	99455	n/a	\$192
Review of MMI and IR by another doctor (TD only)	99455	VR	\$64

**June 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024
RD MMI and IR Exams
RD Billing Instructions (28 TAC Sec. 134.260)**

RD Type of Exam/Service	CPT Code	Modifier	2024 Reimbursement (MAR)
Not at MMI exam	99456	NM	\$449
At MMI exam	99456	n/a	\$449
IR exam first MSK body area	99456	n/a	\$385
IR exam additional MSK body area (max of 3)	99456	n/a	\$192
IR exam each non-MSK body area	99456	n/a	\$192