

ILLUSTRATIVE SAMPLE - DE-IDENTIFIED

Past Medical Expenses, Line by Line

Every name, date, provider, Bates number, and figure below is fictitious. This one-page specimen shows the shape of an Etiology review: each charge is given two determinations, each cited to the record page it rests on, and a contestable charge is called GRAY with the record that would settle it named, never forced into a clean answer.

Two axes, three values each. **Chart determination:** INVOLVES / DOES NOT INVOLVE / MIXED. **Causation screen:** RELATED / NOT RELATED / GRAY. A MIXED charge is APPORTIONED across related and unrelated care.

Provider	Dates of service	Bates anchor	Charges	Chart determination	Causation screen	Basis, on the record
Regional Medical Center ER	3/14/26	SAMP-000001 to 000018	\$412.00	INVOLVES	RELATED	Acute presentation the day of the fall; lumbar pain, exam, and imaging ordered.
Valley Imaging	3/21/26	SAMP-000042 to 000047	\$2,180.00	INVOLVES	GRAY	Lumbar MRI reads an annular tear at L5-S1 superimposed on degeneration documented before the fall.
Cypress Physical Therapy	4/2/26 to 6/18/26	SAMP-000090 to 000151	\$6,840.00	INVOLVES	RELATED	Course of lumbar physical therapy for the acute strain.
Northgate Pain Associates	5/9/26	SAMP-000160 to 000166	\$3,900.00	DOES NOT INVOLVE	NOT RELATED	Cervical facet injections; cervical complaints documented two years before the fall.
Delta Endoscopy	7/1/26	SAMP-000178 to 000182	\$2,050.00	DOES NOT INVOLVE	NOT RELATED	Screening colonoscopy; routine and unrelated to the injury.
Regional Medical Center	3/14/26 to 3/17/26	SAMP-000201 to 000330	\$18,470.00	MIXED	APPORTIONED	Inpatient stay treated the lumbar injury and an unrelated COPD exacerbation; charges apportioned across the two.
Northgate Orthopedics	8/5/26	SAMP-000350 to 000356	\$520.00	INVOLVES	GRAY	Consult recommends lumbar fusion; degenerative contribution unresolved on the record.

By classification: Related **\$7,252.00** . Not related **\$5,950.00** . Apportioned **\$18,470.00** . Gray, pending resolution **\$2,700.00**

Medical Chronology (excerpt)

Date	Provider	What the record says	Bates
1/22/26	Valley Imaging	"MRI lumbar spine: multilevel degenerative disc disease, most pronounced at L4-L5 and L5-S1, without acute abnormality." (before the fall)	SAMP-000031
3/14/26	Regional Medical Center ER	"Patient reports slip and fall on a wet floor earlier today with immediate low back pain."	SAMP-000002
3/21/26	Valley Imaging	"Annular fissure at L5-S1 superimposed on chronic degenerative change."	SAMP-000043

Gray area, and what would resolve it. Lumbar fusion (recommended) is called **GRAY**. On the record: multilevel degeneration is documented 1/22/26, before the fall; an acute annular tear at L5-S1 appears 3/21/26, after it. What would resolve it: a statement from the treating surgeon apportioning the fusion between the pre-existing degeneration and the acute tear, or the pre-incident and post-incident imaging placed side by side. The charge is not forced to RELATED or NOT RELATED on a record that does not yet decide it.