

Industrial Insurance Chiropractic Advisory Committee (IICAC) Meeting Minutes
Date: February 18, 2010 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.



Final

Present: Robert Baker, DC
Clay Bartness, DC
Roger Coleman, DC
Linda DeGroot, DC
Michael Dowling, DC, Chair
Lissa Grannis, DC
Bill Pratt, DC, Vice Chair
Ron Wilcox, DC
Bob Mootz, DC
Janet Blume
Carole Horrell
Reshma Kearney
Joanne McDaniel
Jason McGill

Absent: La Vonda McCandless
Jay Lawhead, DC

Guests: Josh Morse
Janet Peterson

General Business

9/17/09 IICAC minutes:

Moved, Seconded, Carried (MSC): Minutes were approved as written.

Functional Recovery Questionnaire

Bob Mootz, DC shared copies of the new tool COHE has been developing to assist return to work (RTW) after industrial injury. More R&D results will follow at future meetings.

Several of COHE's past best practices include:

- Reports of Accident submitted within 2 days
- Activity Prescription Form
- Health Services Coordinators
- Assessing impediments to RTW at four weeks, to consider and address medical, psychosocial and other barriers to recovery.

Research from the University of Washington reported that high adoptors of these best practices had lower levels of disability. The research team is now pilot testing a Functional Recovery Questionnaire (FRQ) which is based on research that has been able to identify workers shortly after their injury who may be at increased risk of long term disability. The pilot will eventually be testing additional best practices to see if even more disability can be prevented

Utilization Review (UR) for Radiography

Josh Morse reported that a law passed last year requires evidence based guidelines. Following direction of the Advanced Imaging Workgroup created by the law, L&I and other agencies worked together to develop evidence-based checklists for MRIs and CTs for the neck, lumbar spine, upper extremities, lower extremities, and headaches.

L&I's UR contractor Qualis will implement a web-based review process using these checklists and will recommend approval or denial.

Requests will be made online at Qualis' website which will be accessed through One Health Port. The referring doctor will complete a fillable questionnaire and submit online. This will allow immediate feedback whether questionnaire will be recommended for approval or denied, based only on the checklist. The next day, L&I would review their recommendation and approve/deny based on claim validity and eligibility. If approved, an authorization number would be sent in a letter to the doctor and would also appear in the Claim and Account Center (CAC).

Josh will send the team copies of the draft guidelines for their information.

Within the next three weeks, the communication plan will be implemented, including letters to all providers.

Health Services Analysis

Janet Peterson, HSA Program manager, provided update information:

- CR101 for rule changes was filed to update the L&I conversion factor. The conversion factor is decreasing slightly to offset many increases in CMS weights and keep the overall change in payment levels "budget neutral". Due to the new CMS weights, some fees are increasing, some decrease. The new fee schedule will be in effect on 7/1/2010.
- Other proposed rules effective 7/1/2010 increase the number of miles a worker travels to medical appointments before L&I pays mileage.
- Effective 3/1/2010:
 - Workers compensation no longer covers TENS or supplies. This coverage change is based on a decision made by the interagency Health Technology Assessment Program last fall. The TENS contractor will pay postage to have rental units returned to them.
 - New IME WACS are in effect to increase standards for examiners. The cap of 12 exams/day per examiner implemented last summer led to reduced complaints from workers. Only two providers exceeded this limit since it took effect.
- By 12/2010, a centralized state database will be operating to help providers and insurers communicate about professionals' credential information.
- ICD-10 will be implemented in 10/2013. L&I is converting to the federally required diagnosis codes. We've requested funding that was included in the governor's supplemental budget.
- Provider sections of the L&I website are being improved with Plain Talk, better search functions, and more usable Medical Aid Rule and Fee Schedules (MARFS). This will take time; changes will be implemented when they become available.
- Online billing is working well and used for 76.4% of bills to the State Fund. IICAC members verified how well the system works for them. They suggested an online chart note option, such as the Veterans' Administration provides. That program has the SOAP note and billing code all in one form—used in all states.

- COHE expansion will go statewide in 2013. Careful development plans are being researched now.
- Meetings are happening between self insurance and State Fund to share information on occupational health best practices.
- Quality of care reviews recently led to removal of one chiropractor. As well, two ARNPs were removed for opioid prescribing practices.
- Provider Education provided day long seminars to 500 doctors last year and will begin creating educational videos.

PPQ Subcommittee Report

“Draft of evidence summary—Conservative Care Options for Work Related Mechanical Shoulder Conditions”:

- Was revised using IICAC’s input.
- Draft will be published on the IICAC page of the L&I website in April for 30 days to obtain public comment (**MSC** unanimously by IICAC) Outcomes will be shared at the May 2010 IICAC meeting.

PEO Subcommittee Report

Ron Wilcox, DC, Chair, is working on the educational chart showing effective clinical management of the uncomplicated, non-surgical claim.

Team members are also developing a self assessment worth one credit hour for the Carpal Tunnel Syndrome practice resource. Lissa Grannis is developing the questions in conjunction with Bob Mootz, DC and others.

Regional outreach meetings and convention exhibit booth efforts will focus on sharing the practice resources and other L&I information.

5/20/10 IICAC Meeting Agenda:

- Legislative updates—Jason McGill, JD
- Utilization Review for Imaging—Josh Morse
- PPQ Subcommittee: Shoulder Practice Resource: Vote on adopting to move it to resource page (10 min)
- PEO Subcommittee
- Possibly a COHE update—Diana Drylie

Next Meeting:

The full IICAC meet reconvene on Thursday, May 20, 2010 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.