

# How to Bill for an Occupational Disease History Report (Code 1055M)



If you provide the services described below, you — or a medical, osteopathic, or podiatric physician consultant of your choice — may use code 1055M to bill the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) or a self-insured employer. This code will be paid at the current rate, which you can find at [Lni.wa.gov/FeeSchedules](http://Lni.wa.gov/FeeSchedules).

## Notes about billing with this code

- A doctor can bill this code **only once** for each patient.
- **This code is for diseases only, not injuries.**

## What is required for payment?

The practitioner must submit **all three** of the following (described in more detail below):

1. The Occupational Disease Work History Form (or a comparably detailed work history form containing all the same elements as the L&I form), **and**
2. An occupational history, **and**
3. An opinion on causation.

### 1. Occupational Disease Work History Form

Ask the patient to arrive at least 30 to 60 minutes prior to the appointment to fill out the Occupational Disease Work History Form. Or, you could mail the form to the patient and ask them to bring the completed form to the appointment. The doctor must then review the form with the patient to gather information necessary for the occupational history described below.

To get the form, call L&I at 1-800-LISTENS (1-800-547-8367), or visit [Lni.wa.gov/go/F242-071-000](http://Lni.wa.gov/go/F242-071-000).

### 2. Occupational history

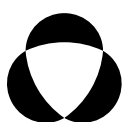
The doctor must include a detailed occupational history in the dictated report. **For each employer** the patient lists on the Occupational Disease Work History Form, at least the following information must be included in the occupational history:

- a. A description of the patient's work practices.
- b. Protective equipment used (for example, earplugs for hearing protection).
- c. Engineering controls used (for example, rubber cushions placed under machinery to protect from noise exposure), and
- d. Exposure history (including non-work exposures during the period of employment). The doctor may find it helpful to ask the patient to bring records of exposure levels from the employer(s), if any are readily available.

### 3. Opinion on causation

In addition, the doctor's report **must** include a statement as to which jobs listed on the Occupational Disease Work History Form contributed to each diagnosed condition, on a more-probable-than-not basis, based on whatever information is available at the time of the examination.

Because your opinion on causation, although necessary, may not be sufficient for claim acceptance, document the following as fully as possible in order to support your opinion:



Washington State Department of  
**Labor & Industries**  
*Workers' Compensation Services*

*Upon request, language support and formats for persons with disabilities are available. Call 1-800-547-8367. TDD users, call 711. L&I is an equal opportunity employer.*

- a. Any verifiable evidence to support a workplace exposure that could cause the diagnosed occupational disease, described in as much detail as possible (for example, by citing industrial hygiene measurements);
- b. A clear description of the condition and of objective findings to validate presence of the occupational disease;
- c. A clear statement of the likelihood of a causal relationship between the exposure and the condition, on a more-probable-than-not basis, including the basis for the opinion (such as a description of the temporal relationship, supporting references from medical literature, etc.)

## Questions?

- For billing questions, contact L&I's Provider Hotline at 1-800-848-0811 or send us an email at [bhl@Lni.wa.gov](mailto:bhl@Lni.wa.gov) with your name and contact number.
- For claim questions, contact the claim manager: their number is included on L&I correspondence. You can send secure messages to the claim manager through the online Claim & Account Center at **[Lni.wa.gov/CAC](https://Lni.wa.gov/CAC)**.