

## Industrial Insurance Medical Advisory Committee Meeting

Quarterly Meeting Minutes for [7/25/2024](#) | Prepared by: Victoria Rich, OMD Admin

### **IIMAC Members Present**

Andrew Friedman, MD (Chair)  
Kirk Harmon, MD (Vice-chair)  
Jiho Bryson, MD  
Greg Carter, MD  
Laurie Gwerder, ARNP  
Monica Haines, DO  
Louis Lim, MD  
Linda Seaman, MD  
Mike Codosi, MD  
Patricia Waring, MD  
Stephen Thielke, MD  
Dawn Ehde, PhD (IIMAC memberships starts in October)

### **IIMAC Members Not Present**

Chris Howe, MD  
Jean-Christophe (JC) Leveque, MD

### **L&I Staff Present & Presenters**

Gary Franklin  
Kim Wallace  
Karen Jost  
Suzyn Daniel  
Zach Gray  
Shauna Muendel  
Amy Updike  
Azadeh Farokhi  
Bob Waring  
Morgan Young  
Jason Fodeman  
Jennifer Jutte  
Ji Young Nam  
Lee Glass  
Nancy Adams  
Tiffany Meeks  
Victoria Rich

### Welcome and Call to Order\* (Andrew Friedman)

### Hybrid Helpful Hints (Suzyn Daniel)

### Introductions (Andrew Friedman and Suzyn Daniel)

IIMAC Chair Andrew Friedman called the meeting to order and led introductions. Suzyn Daniel introduced L&I participants.

### Agenda Review

### Approve Minutes\* From 4/25/2024 (Andrew Friedman):

\* Committee members reviewed and approved the April 25, 2024 IIMAC meeting minutes with no content changes; minor corrections were made. Motion carried and approved.

### Safety Tip (Andrew Friedman)

Andrew presented a safety tip on poor air quality due to wildfire smoke.

### ACHIEv Summary (Laurie Gwerder)

Laurie presented the ACHIEv summary. Minutes for the July ACHIEv meeting will be posted on the L&I advisory [webpage](#) once they are approved at the October meeting.

### OPMA Training (Neil Diemer)

Neil implemented the required Open Public Meetings Act training for committee members:

- The following members were present and completed training: Andrew Friedman (Chair); Kirk Harmon (Vice-chair); Jiho Bryson; Greg Carter; Laurie Gwerder; Monica Haines; Louis Lim; Linda Seaman; Mike Cods; Patricia Waring; Stephen Thielke; and Dawn Ehde.
- The following members were not present and will complete training modules independently. Once completed, these members will send certificates to Tiffany Meeks [meet235@lni.wa.gov](mailto:meet235@lni.wa.gov).

### IIMAC New Member Appointment (Andrew Friedman, Gary Franklin, Jennifer Jutte)

Jennifer introduced Dr. Dawn Ehde as the first psychologist member of IIMAC; her position starts October 2024. Dr. Ehde will also serve as co-chair on the PTSD subcommittee and was warmly welcomed by the committee.

### Improving Quality of Care for Workers (Andrew Friedman, Kirk Harmon)

The committee discussed various ideas to enhance quality of care for workers. Suggestions included gathering data on the main causes of care delays, engaging with group A providers, and reviewing forms for potential, optimal changes.

**PTSD Subcommittee (Stephen Thielke, Zach Gray, Jennifer Jutte)**

Zach provided an overview of the PTSD subcommittee, including its background, mission, and composition, along with potential topics for discussion. The first meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2024, with the project expected to be completed in the later half of 2025.

**Thoracic Outlet Syndrome Surgery Manuscript (Gary Franklin, Andrew Friedman, Lee Glass, Zach Gray, Shauna Muendel)**

Gary presented information findings on Neurogenic Thoracic Outcome Syndrome Surgery in Washington Worker's Compensation.

**Retreat Agenda Planning (Andrew Friedman, Suzyn Daniel)**

The committee reviewed the suggested topics for the upcoming retreat in October for IIMAC members.

**Updates**

**Medical Consultant RFQQ – Suzyn Daniel**

The Medical Consultant RFQQ is now complete, with all bids closed. Bidders who have met the criteria will be notified soon. Not all specialties received bids, the Department is exploring opportunities to address these needs.

**WCAC PTSD Subcommittee – Jennifer Jutte**

Jennifer reviewed the goals and scope of the WCAC PTSD subcommittee, which includes examining PTSD claim data, researching prevention practices, and examining industry best practices. The first meeting took place in June 2024, where foundational concepts as well as claims and cost data were discussed. The next meeting date is yet to be determined, but future meetings will be held quarterly.

**Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Survey and Jurisdictional Review – Amy Updike**

Amy discussed the upcoming PTSD study which set is to be posted as a solicitation on WEBS around August 1, 2024. This study will include jurisdictional review related to PTSD.

**IME Legislation- Nancy Adams**

Nancy gave an update on the IME legislation:

- In 2021, ESSB 6440-limit on when and why an exam can be requested
- In 2023, SHB 1068- the right for workers to record exams, audio or video

**Public Comment (Andrew Friedman)**

None

**Wrap-Up (Andrew Friedman)**

- Next meeting is October 24, 2024.
- Please note: In 2025 we will meet on May 8 2025 for the “April” meeting to accommodate for the Worker’s Memorial.

**Meeting adjourned: 4:33pm**