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MEDICAL ALERT

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In response to questions that have been directed to the Commission these reminders follow:

1. An order from the Commission appointing an Independent Medical Examiner (IME) requires that the IME named in the order and no other physician, physicians associate or advanced practice nurse is authorized to evaluate the claimant. Additionally, the Commission Rules require the IME report to be submitted in a timely fashion, i.e. within fourteen days.
2. Rating physicians are required by the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act (AWCA) to use the latest edition of the AMA Guides, which is the 6th Edition, to document how the rating was determined, and include with the report all forms recommended by the AMA Guides 6th Edition.
3. Treating physicians who rate impairment shall document how the rating was determined, and include with the report all forms recommended by AMA Guides 6th Edition.
4. Treating physicians are reminded that the Official Disability Guidelines-Treatment in Workers Compensation (ODG) is to be recognized as the primary standard of reference, at the time of treatment, in determining the frequency and extent of services presumed to be medically necessary and appropriate for the compensable injuries under the AWCA, or in resolving such matters in the event a dispute arises. (Language from 85A O.S. 16§(A)).


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