

**From:** Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation  
**Sent:** Monday, March 09, 2015  
**Subject:** Provider eNews - March 2015

# BWC Provider eNews



March 9, 2015

## Free CMEs available during 2015 Ohio Safety Congress & Expo

Register now to attend the 2015 Ohio Safety Congress & Expo, March 31 to April 2 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. This year's theme is *Imagine your purpose, Innovate the process, Inspire success.*

Originating in 1927, BWC's safety congress is the largest and longest-running occupational safety, health and workers' compensation event in Ohio.

For the first time, we're planning a full day of workers' compensation treatment education specifically for physicians and health-care professionals which will enhance your BWC knowledge base on April 2.

Physicians attending the workers' compensation medical education track will be eligible to receive up to 6.5 credits in Category 1™ of the AMA Physicians Recognition Award which is sponsored by The Ohio State University Medical Center.

### **Session #**      **Medical education session title**

#### **8 to 9 a.m.**

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 711 | Most Common Shoulder Injuries and Current Treatment Protocol |
| 721 | Prevention and Control of Low Back Disorders                 |
| 731 | Treating Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Depression       |

#### **9:15 to 10:15 a.m.**

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 712 | Putting Official Disability Guidelines™ to Work for Your Practice |
|-----|---|

#### **10:30 to 11:30 a.m.**

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 713 | The Effects of Psychiatric Impairments on Work Ability  |
| 723 | Ad Infinitum Time Off Work and Treatment of Injured Workers: Good Medicine or Doctoring for Dollars |

**12:45 to 1:45 p.m.**

714 Strategic Provider Communications: How to Achieve Results

**2:15 to 3:15 p.m.**

715 Appropriate Use of AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment for Psychological Conditions

725 Appropriate Use of AMA Guides® for the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment for Physical Conditions

**3:30 to 5 p.m.**

716 Opioids for Chronic, Non-Cancer Pain: Collaboration to Reverse the Epidemic

Register for the medical education sessions by clicking [here](#). You will need your workers' compensation policy number and your National Provider Identifier number to register.

The Ohio State University Medical Center, Center for Continuing Medical Education is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

The Ohio State University Medical Center designates this educational activity for a maximum of 6.5 AMA PRA category 1 Credit™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## **BWC's Enhanced Care Program: a health-care pilot in Northeastern Ohio**

For the past year, BWC has worked with representatives from all the workers' compensation stakeholder groups on ideas to improve the BWC health-care delivery model. These groups include business, labor, the medical community, trial attorneys and managed care organizations.

All stakeholders agree each claimant should receive high-quality care, and there should be more care coordination in BWC's health-care system. There is also a desire to remove barriers that prevent providers from rendering treatment in a claim's early stages. Finally, BWC and the stakeholders would like to give providers more flexibility to treat. We will test these ideas via a pilot, called the Enhanced Care Program.

### **Objectives of the Enhanced Care Program**

The program's objectives are to expedite care early in the claim; give more treatment latitude to the physician of record (POR); and encourage the POR to consider the claimant more holistically and coordinate with other providers as necessary. This includes the claimant's primary care provider. Thus, after evaluating a pilot claimant, the POR will need to develop a comprehensive treatment plan which addresses:

- The conditions allowed in the claim;
- Other injuries/issues not officially allowed in the claim but that the POR believes to be causally related to the workplace injury;

General health issues impacting the claimant's optimal path back to work.

The POR would need to submit this care plan to the MCO within five days. However, the POR would be able to begin rendering treatment with expectation of appropriate reimbursement if the care falls within the Official Disability Guidelines.

**Note:** (If proposed treatment falls outside these guidelines, prior authorization from the MCO will be required for those services.)

### Program details

The Enhanced Care Program begins this summer in 16 Northeastern Ohio counties - Ashtabula, Carroll, Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Holmes, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas and Wayne. All claims initially allowed for only a knee injury will be eligible for the program as long as the claimant chooses a POR participating in the program.

Any BWC-certified physician who practices in the pilot region and agrees to adhere to the enhanced responsibilities of a POR, which BWC's Health Care Quality Assurance Advisory Committee developed, will be eligible to participate in the program. Primarily, the POR will be required to serve as the quarterback for managing the claimant's care. BWC plans to provide enhanced compensation for PORs who agree to serve in this capacity for pilot claims.

### Next steps

BWC will hold educational sessions for interested providers in the pilot region during the coming months. Please watch for communication from us for details about when and where we will hold these meetings.

## Learn more about ICD-10 at Safety Congress

Don't miss the 2015 Safety Congress & Expo session (634), from 1 to 2 p.m., April 1— ICD-10 Coding in the Workers' Comp Industry: Why Change, Why Now?

This session features free continuing education units for certified case managers, certified rehabilitation counselors, human resources professionals and from the International Association for Continuing Education and Training.

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