

Texas Department of Insurance

COMPMINUTE

From the Division of Workers' Compensation

(CompMinute provides a briefing to Texas workers' compensation system participants on new initiatives underway at the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation).

DIVISION PUBLISHES COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL BILL PROCESSING GUIDES

(April 25, 2007) -- The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (Division), recently posted to the agency website comprehensive guides to assist health care providers and insurance carriers with the submission and processing of workers' compensation medical bills.

The *Clean Claim and Electronic Medical Billing and Payment Workers' Compensation Companion Guides* include information on both electronic and paper billing requirements. The guides are posted at: <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/bpi/index.html#ebcg>

The Division previously adopted rules to require electronic billing in the workers' compensation system beginning in 2008. While the rules specified the format to be used for various electronic transactions, the companion guides provide detailed specifications.

"These guides do not proscribe how to transmit the data; they only define what data must be included," said Jaelene Fayhee, Executive Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Research. "This will give health care providers and insurance carriers the flexibility to choose the approach that works best for their organization."

One purpose of the companion guides is to align paper claim submissions with automated processing or reporting requirements. All system participants should consult the companion guides for medical bill processing whether bills are being submitted on paper claims or electronically.

The Division worked closely with Texas workers' compensation system stakeholder workgroups to develop the companion guides. Also, the Division asked for comments from the California Division of Workers' Compensation and the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC). The final companion guides are aligned with national standard formats and industry practices.

For more information about the companion guides, please contact Allen McDonald, Information Management Services, at 512-804-4530; e-mail: allen.mcdonald@tdi.state.tx.us.

This CompMinute is posted on the Division website at the following link:
<http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/news/news.html>.

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