

Pain Treatment Guidelines Acute and Non-malignant pain

Pain Treatment Guidelines were developed and recommended to the Division of Workers' Safety and Compensation by Medical Commission subcommittee members on March 21, 2007, with an implementation date for May 1, 2007.

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The guideline criteria and recommendations were developed by combining evidence from the medical literature with the opinions of clinical expert consultants, and community based practicing physicians. *A special note of acknowledgement to the works of worker's compensation state boards of Ohio, Washington, Colorado, and Massachusetts, is recognized as much of the guidelines are based on their documentation.*

These guidelines will be used in the workers' compensation injured worker population and therefore the guidelines are more heavily based on expert opinion from Medical Commission panel members.

Health Care Providers are expected to be familiar with the guidelines and follow the recommendations, however, the Medical Commission members and Division recognizes the guidelines are not hard and fast rules. The guidelines are meant to be a standard for the majority of requests. Injured workers', who appear not to meet the guideline criteria, will have a further review by a specialty-matched physician for further assessment of the clinical findings.

Guidelines will be re-reviewed by Medical Commission subcommittee members at scheduled timeframes depending on the amount of received recommendations for changes by community practicing physicians and subcommittee members.

Pain Treatment Guidelines (acute and non-malignant pain) are recommended to the Division Administrator, Gary W. Child on March 21, 2007.

Peter G. Perakos, MD
Medical Commission President

Division adopted and began implementation of the Pain Treatment Guidelines on May 1, 2007