

Management-Labor Advisory Committee
Friday, April 28, 2006
Labor and Industries Building, Room 260

Committee Members Present:

Sheri Sundstrom, Hoffman Construction Company, Portland, OR
Tracy Brill, Port of Portland, Portland
Linda Jefferson, City of Portland, Portland, OR
Lon Holston, AFSCME, Grants Pass, OR
Greg Miller, Gunderson LLC, Portland, OR
Mike O'Rourke, Plumbing and Steamfitters UA 290, Tualatin, OR
Lisa Trussell, Associated Oregon Industries, Salem, OR
John Kirkpatrick, IUPAT District Council, Tualatin, OR
Cory Streisinger, Director, Department of Consumer and Business Services

Committee Member Excused:

Ellen Cutler, Harry and David, Medford, OR
Bob Shiprack, Oregon Building Trades Council, Tualatin, OR

Staff Present:

John Shilts, Workers' Compensation Division
Tracy O'Connor, Information Management Division
Dan McNally, Workers' Compensation Division
Wendy Stone, Workers' Compensation Division
Lou Savage, Director's Office
Myrna Curzon, Director's Office

Sheri Sundstrom called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Lisa Trussell to approve the minutes as submitted. Mike O'Rourke seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as submitted.

SAIF Corporation

Brenda Rocklin, SAIF Corporation
Ms. Rocklin reviewed with the committee the Executive Summary of a document titled "Report to the Governor, Review of SAIF Corporation: Final Report." The summary was provided to the committee. Ms. Rocklin discussed briefly the report and identified improvements that have been made at SAIF as well as things they continue to work to improve. Ms. Rocklin also provided the committee with their 2005 annual report. In addition, Ms. Rocklin discussed a regional outreach initiative and a workforce diversity initiative.

Committee Discussion: A request was made for information regarding denial rates as well as information on the injured worker survey done by SAIF.

Care Provider Subcommittee Update

John Shilts, Workers' Compensation Division and Tracy O'Connor, Information Management Division. Ms. O'Connor gave the committee an update on the status of the Care Provider survey

work done to date. In addition Mr. Shilts gave brief information on requests from the Care Provider Subcommittee.

Nurse Practitioner Update

John Shilts, Workers' Compensation Division

Mr. Shilts gave information to the committee on the work to date on the review of treatment of injured workers by Nurse Practitioners. WCD has done a survey and data from the survey is being compiled now. A report should be available for the Sunsets subcommittee some time in June.

Brian Delashmutt, Oregon Nurses Association

Mr. Delashmutt thanked the WCD staff for the work done on the survey. He indicated that there has been a high degree of cooperation between WCD and the Oregon Nurses Association in the process of developing the survey.

PPD Update

John Shilts, Workers' Compensation Division

Mr. Shilts gave information to the committee on the work to date on the review of the sunsets in PPD. The Information Management Division is in the process of rating a random sample of claim files. The feedback regarding the findings should be available to the committee in the next six to eight weeks.

SB311 Implementation Update

Dan McNally, Workers' Compensation Division

Mr. McNally gave the committee information on work that has been done on implementation of SB311. Rulemaking is in process for those areas that required rulemaking. Mr. McNally also gave the committee information on inquiries and complaints that have come into the office. A brochure required to be sent to the worker when the IME is scheduled is now available. It is in the process of being translated to Spanish and will also be translated to Russian.

Committee Discussion: Status of training IME physicians: The Workers' Compensation Division is currently reviewing proposals from vendors to provide training to IME physicians. Training needs to be available in various areas of the state.

MQI – Medical Quality Initiative

Nancy Bieber, Workers' Compensation Division

A document titled "The Medical Quality Initiative" was provided to the committee. Ms. Bieber discussed the concepts provided in the document as well as discussing the work that has been done to date.

Committee Discussion: The committee will review the questions provided in the document and provide feedback by email.

Schedule for Consideration of 2007 Legislative Concepts

John Shilts, Workers' Compensation Division

Mr. Shilts gave the committee brief information on concepts that WCD has been working on for the 2007 session.

A notice will be posted on the MLAC website soliciting legislative concepts for MLAC to review.

Public Testimony

Dr. Vern Saboe, Chiropractic Association of Oregon

Dr. Saboe provided a data document to the committee. The document provides data on Chiropractic Physicians in each geographic area and the number of Chiropractic Physicians on an MCO panel in each geographic area. The data is based on a survey done by the Chiropractic Association of Oregon. Dr. Saboe also provided comments on the Care Provider Study being done by the Workers' Compensation Division and on the Medical Quality Initiative.

Committee Discussion: Discussion focused on the following topics: the regional differences in Chiropractor participation on MCO panels in the various regions, need for education to the worker regarding their rights to treatment, comparison between various providers participating on an MCO, and educating providers on their rights to apply for participation on an MCO.

Evan Karp and Lisa Johnson, Oregon Health Systems

Mr. Karp provided written testimony to the committee. Mr. Karp's testimony provides information on the status of chiropractors and naturopaths within the Oregon Health Systems MCO.

Committee Discussion: The committee asked for information on how the review of treatment from providers in an MCO functions. Mr. Karp and Ms Johnson gave brief general information and offered to provide additional data to the committee. A request was made that data be provided to the subcommittee.

Dr. Joseph Eusterman, Western Occupational and Environmental Medical Services

Dr. Eusterman provided two documents to the committee and presented two recommendations to the committee. The first recommendation was regarding defining objective findings. The second recommendation was regarding a fee schedule for IME exams.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.