

## N E W S L I N E

Newsline No.: 2015-49

Date: June 5, 2015

### DWC Issues First 15-Day Comment Period for Qualified Medical Evaluator Regulations

Following a public hearing on May 22, 2015 and a review of submitted comments, the Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) has made revisions to the Qualified Medical Evaluator (QME) regulations. Members of the public are invited to present written comments regarding the proposed modifications to [dwcrules@dir.ca.gov](mailto:dwcrules@dir.ca.gov) until 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2015.

Proposed revisions include the following requirements and clarifications:

- Initial represented panel requests postmarked after September 3, 2015 will not be accepted or processed by the Medical Unit for initial represented panel requests only. The last day to mail in panel requests will be September 3, 2015.
- Effective October 1, 2015, all initial panel requests must be submitted electronically.
- Parties will have ten days from service of the panel list to strike a doctor.
- Disputes regarding the validity of panel requests must be resolved by a workers' compensation judge.
- Disputes regarding the appropriateness of the specialty designated must be resolved by the Medical Director. Either party may appeal the decision with a workers' compensation judge.
- MAA Anesthesiology is added as a specialty listing.
- QME Form 105 is amended to make a spelling correction and to indicate that the requesting party must select only one specialty.

The notice and text of the regulations can be found on the DWC proposed regulations [page](#).

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