

From: Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation
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BWC Provider eNews



July 13, 2016

Open enrollment for MCOs complete; new MCOs responsible beginning July 4, 2016

Ohio's state-fund employers may change managed care organizations (MCOs) during BWC's open enrollment period, which occurs every other year. This was recently completed, and the transition to new MCOs began July 4.

When an employer changes MCOs, all billing and treatment authorization requests must go to the new MCO. If you're unsure if a change occurred, you may contact the worker, the MCO or BWC. Self-insuring Ohio employers continue to manage all their workers' compensation claims and are not affected by this biennial process.

Continuity of medical care and uninterrupted service to injured workers are of paramount importance. A directory of all MCOs is available [here](#) that shows you where to send bills and medical documents for every MCO. When you send medical documents to the number listed, BWC automatically receives a copy for the worker's electronic claim file.

Existing service authorizations

To provide uninterrupted service to the injured worker, the new MCO must honor, in its entirety, any authorizations approved by the former MCO that extend past July 4. The only exception would be if an alternative course of treatment is available that will affect the injured worker's medical outcome positively. If the injured worker, employer and provider agree to the alternative treatment, the new MCO may change the treatment plan.

Reimbursement policies for earlier service dates

As of July 4, providers are sending all bills to the new MCOs. If the new MCO receives a bill with a last date of service before July 4, it will review and process the bill. The new MCO will discuss or review bill history with the former MCO, if necessary.

If you have any questions about the transition process, contact the MCO or call BWC at 1-800-644-6292, and follow the prompts.

View webinar to maintain transitional work developer accreditation

Does your BWC Transitional Work Developer accreditation expire in 2016? Do not worry. You may participate in one of two computer-based webinars we're offering in 2016 that you may attend from your home or office.

This webinar fulfills the requirement to renew your developer accreditation for two more years and establish you as having verified experience in developing transitional work programs according to BWC's transitional work policy. The next session will be from 1 to 3 p.m. on Aug. 9. If you can't participate in this webinar, there will be another one on Oct. 4.

For registration information and training details, see www.bwc.ohio.gov. If you have questions about the classes, email TWSupport@bwc.state.oh.us, or call 614-995-0437. BWC values your expertise and dedication in helping employers get their injured workers *back to work, back to life*.

Lost-time claim no longer needed for a Transitional Work Grant

As of July 1, Ohio employers – private and public – no longer need a lost-time claim to receive a BWC Transitional Work Grant. This change allows employers to take a proactive approach to returning their employees to work which helps transition injured workers back to work, back to life.

Our **Transitional Work Grant Program** aids employers in developing a transitional work program that's right for their business and their employees. Transitional work helps return an injured worker to the job as soon as safely possible while still recovering from their injury. No other workers' compensation organization offers a transitional work program that includes financial grants for employers.

With transitional work grants, companies with 11 or more employees are eligible for a 3-to-1 matching grant. The maximum grant amounts are:

- 11-49 employees up to \$2,900;
- 50-199 employees up to \$5,200;
- 200 or more employees up to \$6,300.

For more information about how these grants can help injured workers return to work, view this **new fact sheet**. You may also visit www.bwc.ohio.gov, email BWC's **Transitional Work Grant unit** or call 614-995-0437.

Coding and billing clarification for Percutaneous Implantation of Neurostimulator Electrode Arrays

BWC identified inconsistencies in physician reporting of codes related to percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode arrays. Please review the **policy alert** that provides this additional clarification about proper coding and billing for reimbursement of this service.

If you have questions, email [medical services](#).

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