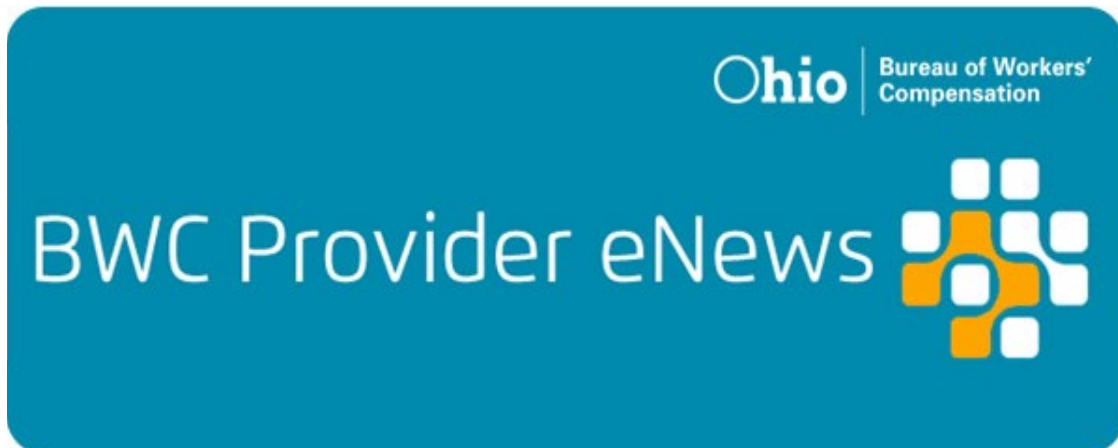


From: Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019
Subject: Provider eNews - January 2019

January 2019



New webinar series expands: First webinar is Jan. 29

We announced in the [December Provider eNews](#) and through letters mailed to many treating providers a 2019 clinician-focused webinar series beginning this month. We originally announced the webinars were to be every other month, but now they're monthly.

We designed these 30-minute noon webinars for treating providers and their staff to provide specifics on key medical initiatives and important updates/reminders.

To make this initiative even better, we're pleased to announce our medical policy area will host additional webinars on topics about billing and reimbursement policy, coverage and service provision.

Change to Jan. 29 webinar – quarterly billing and reimbursement updates

There are recent changes to the Medical Board's opioid prescribing rules that will impact our opioid rule. For this reason, we will postpone the topic, Best clinical practices for opioid use and the BWC opioid rule about proper documentation and monitoring checkpoints. We'll cover this topic when we finalize the rule.

Instead, we'll highlight this quarter's updates to the Provider [Billing and Reimbursement Manual](#) to further clarify the updates and increase your understanding of the policy changes.

Monthly topic schedule

- Jan. 29 – Navigating the Billing and Reimbursement Manual Quarterly Update – highlighting BWC's exposure policy and home health care policy.
- Feb. 19 – In Partnership with the Ohio Hospital Association, 2019 Outpatient Fee Schedule Brief and Best Practices for Providing and Billing Services for Injured Workers.
- March 26 – Treatment Guidelines for Lumbar Fusion.
- April 25 - Telehealth and BWC Billing Policy and highlights from the Billing and Reimbursement Manual First Quarter Update.
- May 28 – Understanding the Enhanced Care Program.

We're starting this initiative to help serve you better in 2019. If you have suggestions for topics, let us know. We want to reach all aspects of our provider partner needs. Mark your calendars to join us. For future programming, stay tuned to Provider eNews. Register before each session.

Click [here](#) to go to our website to register. You may go to the bottom right of our website's [provider page](#) to find posted news and events, including webinar registration.

We will record and post the webinars for later review and reference. You can find them by clicking on [Provider videos](#) under the Provider section of the drop-down menu on the home page.

Please forward this newsletter to your colleagues. If they don't receive our monthly Provider eNews with webinar reminders and other important updates, they can email us at Providerlistserve@bwc.state.oh.us. Send your questions to us at feedback.medical@bwc.state.oh.us, or call 1-800-644-6292, option 0-3-0.

Attend our Medical & Health Symposium April 26 – 27; it's free!

We invite you and your staff to our fourth annual Ohio Workers' Compensation Medical & Health Symposium. Based on your request for Friday and Saturday dates, it will be April 26 to April 27, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Online registration opens in February.

You and your staff can participate in a free, world-class educational opportunity specifically related to workers' compensation and occupational medicine topics. You may also network with medically-related exhibitors at the symposium.

Provider clinical education

The provider clinical education track from April 26 to April 27 features leading state, national and international experts in workers' compensation and occupational medicine. We offer continuing education credits for this track. The two-day provider clinical education track features experts in:

- Addiction.
- Behavioral health.
- Chiropractic medicine.
- Concussions.
- Medical marijuana.
- Pharmacology.
- Physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Provider staff forum

The provider staff forum track on April 26 offers a full day of education designed for provider office staff related to key workers' compensation policies and procedures. We recommend office staff/administrators who manage the day-to-day operations of workers' compensation processes and workflows within a health-care system or provider's office attend this track. Staff will learn about:

- BWC's medical initiatives for injured workers and providers.
- Proper billing and reimbursement processes.
- The terms causation, maximum medical improvement, substantial aggravation and more.
- Vocational rehabilitation and transitional work programs.

Information, exhibitor opportunities

If you have questions, call BWC's provider contact center at 1-800-644-6292, option 0-3-0, or email medsymposium@ohio.gov. For more information, go to www.bwc.ohio.gov, and from the provider page look for the Medical & Health Symposium under Featured Resources.

In addition, exhibitor applications are available. If you or a health-care related organization you work with would like to exhibit at the symposium, email Christopher.a.1@bwc.state.oh.us or call 614-728-5508.

BWC releases Provider Billing and Reimbursement Manual update

We released our latest quarterly update to the Provider Billing and Reimbursement Manual (BRM). We will add new and updated policies into the chapter titled New, Revised and Updated Policies each quarter.

As we migrate policies from BRM chapters, we'll replace the old policy and format. The provider will see table of contents and policy references to the New, Revised and Updated Policy link. Providers should consult the quarterly highlights page to identify all changes made to each BRM section.

Policy updates

The fourth quarter 2018 Billing and Reimbursement Manual update published Dec. 28, 2018, includes these 10 reformatted policies:

- Home health agency services.
- Caregiver services.
- Home and vehicle modifications.
- Interpreter services.
- Catastrophic case management plan.
- Exposure or contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials with or without physical injury.
- Spinal decompression therapy.
- Smoking deterrent programs.
- Traumatic brain injury.
- Applicability of medical documentation submitted by nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists and physician assistants.

A reformatted policy is an existing policy that has no revisions. However, we place it into technical policy format without content changes.

For more information, Jan. 29 webinar

You will find these policy updates and the remainder of the Provider [Billing and Reimbursement Manual](#) on the website. We invite you to listen in during upcoming

webinars reviewing highlights of the quarterly updates. The next BRM update webinar is at noon, Tuesday, Jan. 29.

Notable 2019 professional provider fee schedule updates

We annually evaluate and update the professional provider fee schedule (PPFS) for a Jan. 1 annual implementation date. Providers have access to current [BWC fee schedules](#) and two year's history on our website.

We published the 2019 professional provider fee schedule (PPFS) on Dec. 31. The PPFS includes coverage, maximum units, modifier and place of service requirements, in addition to the fee for service rate. BWC's recently approved 2019 PPFS includes the following notable updates:

- We'll require several mandatory elements billed in conjunction with modifiers, in defined situations.
- We'll expand multiple procedure payment reduction to include multiple radiology. We'll align the 15-percent payment reduction for certified registered nurse assistants and anesthesia assistants, similar to physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

2019 inpatient prospective payment system updates

The effective date for the 2019 inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS) update is Feb. 1. Hospitals joined a webinar in September hosted by the Ohio Hospital Association to learn about the planned 2019 updates. These are the updates.

- We intend to adjust the resulting Medicare payments by a payment adjustment factor (PAF). The adjustment will bring the statewide average BWC reimbursement to an amount equal to 114 percent of the inpatient, aggregate facility Medicare-allowed cost.
- We'll reimburse hospitals for IPPS outliers and new technology add-on payments after we calculate the PAF.
- We'll apply the 'lesser of' provision to per diem payments for inpatient treatment for an opioid-use disorder.

Register today for OSC19!

Registration is now open for our Ohio Safety Congress & Expo (OSC19). The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo is the largest regional safety and health conference in the U.S. It runs March 6-8 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

OSC19 will feature 200 educational sessions presented by experts from across the country covering topics related to injury and illness prevention, rehabilitation, return-to-work and cost savings. The Expo Marketplace will also host more than 200 exhibitors.

Attendance is free for Ohio employers and their employees.

Registration and course listings are available at ohiosafetycongress.com.



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or visit us on the web www.bwc.ohio.gov

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