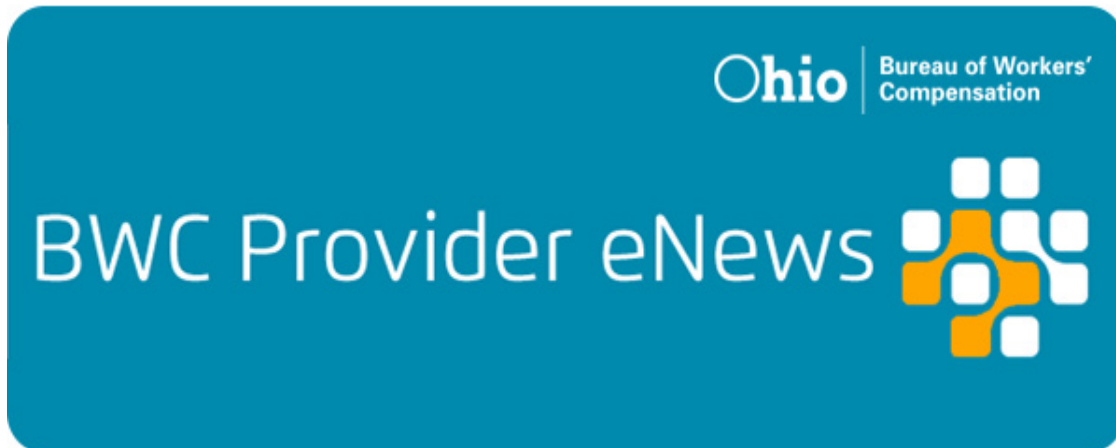


**From:** Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 02, 2017  
**Subject:** Provider eNews - March 2017

March 2, 2017



## **It's here! Medical & Health Symposium, March 9 – 10, Hyatt Regency Columbus**

Due to high provider demand, online registration for the [2017 Ohio Workers' Compensation Medical & Health Symposium](#) is closed. If you missed registering this year, watch our website for upcoming details about the 2018 Ohio Workers' Compensation Medical & Health Symposium.

## **Policy Alert: BWC Coding Clarification for Drug Screens**

The *2017 BWC Coding Clarification Proper Coding of Qualitative and Quantitative Drug Screens* [policy alert](#) (Policy Alert number 02-2017-09) is effective beginning Feb. 14, 2017.

### **Drug testing policy and procedure**

This policy alert clarifies the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes and reimbursement rates. Providers are to use these codes for the payment of qualitative and quantitative drug screens. Details are in the Drug Testing policy and procedure (Policy number MP-21-01).

### **Qualitative, quantitative drug screens**

As of May 1, 2017, BWC will no longer authorize reimbursement to providers who seek payment for drug screens billed under HCPCS codes G0477, G0478 and G0479.

BWC shall only reimburse providers for one drug screen per day billed under CPT codes 80305, 80306 and 80307 for qualitative drug screens. The same goes for HCPCS codes G0480 and G0481 for quantitative drug screens. This policy applies regardless of the number of supplies used, drug classes screened and/or procedures.

If you have policy questions, please email [feedback.medical@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:feedback.medical@bwc.state.oh.us).

## **Self-insuring (SI) employers and state-fund employers: What are the differences?**

BWC will grant the privilege of self-insurance to employers with proven financial strength and administrative ability to pay workers' compensation benefits directly to their injured workers and providers. To ensure the employers' financial stability is ongoing, self-insured (SI) employers must renew their SI status annually. The process includes a financial, administrative and claims-compliance review.

### **Equal benefits for workers**

Self-insuring employers must provide a level of benefits equal to or greater than state-fund employers' benefits for injured workers. The laws, rules and policies are in the most part similar. However, there are a few distinct differences in the management of self-insured claims.

One major difference is that 15 managed care organizations (MCOs) manage the medical portion of state-fund employers' claims. Self-insuring employers may choose to manage their claims directly or hire a third party administrator (TPA) to administer them.

### **Claims reporting**

In addition, SI employers are the decision makers on their claim allowances instead of BWC. Submit [\*First Report of an Injury, Occupational Disease or Death \(FROIs\)\*](#) directly to the SI employer. The SI employer must notify BWC and the injured worker of the certification decision for lost time and contested claims within 30 days of knowledge of the claim.

**Self-insured employers are not required to report medical-only claims to BWC (which are claims with less than eight days off work)**, but must still advise the injured worker of the claim certification decision. The employer keeps the official record of allowed conditions in those claims. BWC does issue a claim number for lost-time claims; however, we do not keep all the documentation or notes in the file on those claims. That is the self-insuring employers' responsibility.

## Information

Email your questions about self-insured claims to [siing@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:siing@bwc.state.oh.us).



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Questions? Call 1-800-644-6292  
or visit us on the web [www.bwc.ohio.gov](http://www.bwc.ohio.gov)

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