



Meeting Notes
September 17, 2004

Members Present: Rebecca Brown, R.N., Charles Carter, M.D., Timothy Keenen, M.D., Maria Carraher; Frank Prideaux, D.C., Gary Rischitelli, M.D., Tom Williams

Members Absent: Pam DeVisser, R.N., Linda Jefferson, CPDM; Franklin Wong, MD.

Committee staff present: Nancy Bieber, Barbara Smith, Debra Buchanan

Others present: Sandra Savage & Fred Bruyns, WCD; Linda Olson, R.N., SAIF; Andi Easton, OMA.

I. Procedures Under Review

- A. IDET: The committee reviewed a draft memo which would recommend the director remove IDET from the list of procedures which are not compensable because they are experimental, unproven, unscientific or outmoded. Instead, IDET would be compensable if certain criteria were met.
DECISION: Members present voted on the proposed memo, and favored the memo. The members present agreed that all members should have the opportunity to vote, and the non-attending and abstaining members would be given the opportunity to vote by mail or email. Dissenting members will prepare a second memo with an alternative recommendation. Members agreed that copies of the recent "Texas" and "Australia" studies should be attached to the recommendation(s).
- B. ACI:
DECISION: MAC will create an Oregon advisory protocol using the Washington L & I's protocols as a guide. This will be the guide on the ACI procedure. The "Oregon" version will be posted to the MAC website as the committee's recommendation to the medical community. The Medical Review Unit may be able to take "notice" of MAC's opinion if they undertake an administrative review of a proposed or completed ACI procedure on an injured worker.
- C. Artificial Disc replacement: WCD was asked to consider adding a rule finding artificial disc replacement noncompensable on the grounds that it is experimental.

DECISION: Because the committee anticipates action by the FDA prior to the November meeting that could impact the status of this procedure, the committee agreed to table a decision regarding this procedure until the November meeting.

2. Physician Certification and Treatment Guidelines: WCD presented a draft outline of a proposal to develop a program for physician certification, the development of treatment guidelines and hiring a part-time medical director for WCD.
3. Future planning: The committee nominated Franklin Wong, M.D. for a one year term as Chair, and Frank Prideaux, D.C. as vice chair. Upon acceptance by Dr. Wong, the slate of nominees will be forwarded to the members for vote by mail or email. The committee also agreed that there is a need for more medical doctors on the committee. Several names were surfaced by the committee.

DECISION: Dr. Keenen will contact Drs. Brad Lorber, Ronald Bowman, Hans Carlson, and David Thorsett, M.D. to invite them to become members of the MAC. *Editors note:* As of this writing, Drs. Lorber and Bowman have agreed to join the committee.

Next meeting is Nov. 19th, in Salem, 9am.