



Meeting Notes
March 23, 2001

1. **IDET Recommendation:** The Committee reviewed the draft memo to John Shilts and recommended changes. WCD staff will make the edits, and send a revised draft to the Committee for final edits by March 30, 2001. The Committee decided to postpone offering definitions of "experimental," "unproven," "unscientific," and "outmoded."
2. **Medical Fee Study update:** Nancy Bieber reviewed the current status of the Medical Fee Study. The Department needs to find out both what other providers are paying and also what whether Oregon specific codes can be added to compensate providers for additional activities that are only required by the Workers' Compensation system.
3. **MAC/MLAC Liaison Role:** David Silver, M.D., will contact the MLAC co-chairs, Bob Shiprack and J.L. Wilson to discuss reconstituting the relationship between the MAC and MLAC. The committee discussed members taking rotating responsibility for the liaison role with MLAC versus the benefit of having a designated individual pursue building a relationship with the MLAC committee members.
4. **Legislative Update:** Nancy Bieber and Janis Checchia updated the committee on Senate Bill 485 and introduced Senate Bill 680. Senate Bill 680 would expand the role of nurse practitioners, allowing them to authorize time loss and treat workers without the limitations that apply to other non-attending physicians. The Medical Advisory Committee voted to go on record opposing SB 680, noting that expanding the nurse practitioner role would increase the number of providers who are unfamiliar with the complexities of the workers' compensation system and would increase worker access to providers with less training and diagnostic skill in geographical areas where there is an adequate pool of physicians.
5. **Recap and Planning:** The MAC will take up the issue of defining terms at the next meeting, and will consider recommending a statutory change to revise the language of "experimental, unproven, unscientific or outmoded," to terms that are more usable.