

State of Colorado
Department of Labor & Employment
Division of Workers' Compensation
633 – 17th Street, 4th Floor
Denver, CO 80202

Division of Workers' Compensation

Level II Accreditation Course

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Note:

This curriculum was developed by the Division of Workers' Compensation with input and approval of the Medical Care Advisory Committee and the medical director. It must be used with the 3rd revised edition of the *AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment only*.

**Department of Labor and Employment
Division of Workers' Compensation**

NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

This written curriculum has been prepared and is endorsed by the Division of Workers' Compensation and its Medical Care Advisory Committee. Physicians enrolled in the Division of Workers' Compensation Physician's Accreditation courses are responsible for understanding and applying the written curriculum as presented in this notebook as well as any other written material that is provided by the Division at seminars or via a home-study course. For purposes of testing for and maintaining accreditation, physicians will be held accountable for this material.

Private physicians and other medical professionals assist and participate in the instruction of the seminar courses. There may be occasions where an instructor may discuss or comment on a complex medical case or legal/medical situation where he/she is expressing his/her opinion or offering reasonable alternatives for the purpose of facilitating discussion. In medicine, as in many other disciplines, opinions about the same case may reasonably differ. However, the opinions expressed by the instructors in these situations are their own and may not necessarily represent the opinions of the Division, nor will the Division necessarily endorse any or all statements by an instructor merely because he/she is engaged by the Division for this educational purpose.

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**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION
MEDICAL SERVICES DELIVERY SECTION**

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Dear Seminar Participant:

Enclosed are your Level II Physician Accreditation educational materials. Level II Accreditation is an educational process designed to provide physicians with an understanding of the administrative, legal and medical aspects of the workers' compensation system, as well as educating physicians in the uniform use of the American Medical Association Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, 3rd Edition, Revised.

Lectures, workshops and demonstrations offered during the two-day accreditation seminar are based on this notebook. Included in your curriculum materials is a copy of the AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, 3rd Edition Revised. The Level II curriculum material serves two purposes: 1) to cover all of the material included in the course and 2) to serve as a reference for impairment and administrative issues. You will be tested only on the objectives at the beginning of each section. Important concepts included in the examination will be emphasized by the lecturers. You will need to read the material and familiarize yourself with the objectives **prior** to coming to the seminar. **Preview the pre-test included in the materials prior to beginning your studies. Take the pretest after studying and then restudy the areas you did not do well in. You will be required to hand in the computer answer sheet for the pre-test at the time you take your test.** You may keep the pre-test itself. Answers to the pre-test are included in your curriculum binder.

You will be required to take an examination to demonstrate understanding of the proper use of the AMA Guides, 3rd Edition Revised and any changes mandated by the Division of Workers' Compensation. The test includes multiple choice questions and case reports that require an impairment rating to be done using the Guides. **The Guides will need to be used for a reference during the case study part of the examination.** All physicians will be tested on the legal, ethical, administrative, and neurological sections. Upon passing the test for full accreditation, you will be allowed to perform impairment ratings on any patient. **If you wish to be accredited to rate only cases related to your specialty, you can choose to take a specialized examination for limited accreditation.** The Division will inform the physician of the other sections that will be included in his/her specialized examination. **Upon passing a specialized exam, the physician will be accredited to rate patients within specified diagnostic categories only.**

You will be accredited for three years on those impairment issues tested with successful completion of the examination. As an accredited physician, it is your responsibility to know the Workers Compensation rules and regulations of the Colorado General Assembly and the

Division of Workers' Compensation. During the course of the accreditation period, we will keep you informed of all new rules and regulations, updated guidelines and any other information you will need to make your work in the Workers' Compensation system a smooth process.

So that we can continue to offer accreditation seminars in the most efficient manner possible, you will be asked to complete an evaluation form at the completion of the seminar that you attend.

Bob Summers
Director

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CURRICULUM - LEVEL II ACCREDITATION

DAY 1 TOPICS

Introduction to the course

Administrative/Legal

Elements of a Quality Workers' Compensation Report

Neurological Impairment

Hand and Upper Extremity Impairment

Spine and Lower Extremity Impairment

Workshops:

- Lower Extremity

- Upper Extremity

- Spine

- Spine Inclinometry

*Order of topics for actual seminar agenda is subject to change.