



Bureau of Workers'
Compensation



2023 Medical and Health Symposium is almost here!

[Registration is still open](#) for the **Medical & Health Symposium May 4 – 6!** Our free, award-winning [symposium](#) is once again virtual and can be attended online from anywhere around the country.

New this year!

BWC is offering an on-demand session titled *“Balancing the Effects of Mental Health, a Personal and Professional Story.”* During this on-demand session, Head Coach Anthony Grant, University of Dayton men’s basketball program, will discuss how mental health has impacted him personally and professionally. Coach Grant has the awesome responsibility of working with young adults every day; and he’ll share the battles that he’s seen within young adults over the years. Mental health struggles have

also hit Coach Grant's family and he'll share his experiences, challenges, and personal struggles.

MHS23 offers sessions for everyone

Comments from 2022 MHS attendees include, "this is one of the best programs I've attended" and "LOVED the topics, speakers, and content from this symposium. I learned so much!" BWC has planned a [comprehensive curriculum](#) which offers [free continuing education](#). Topics range from occupational medicine, disability etiquette, cultural humility, health equity, arthritis, and you can even watch a live rotator cuff surgery. Friday afternoon and Saturday are devoted to mental health sessions.



Click the image to hear from [Charles Clark](#) about his session "Rising to Your Best Self - Lead, Take Control, and Win."



Click the image to hear from [Dr. Jerome Adams](#) about his sessions "Examining the Mental Health Crisis" and "Speaking Up and Speaking Out on Mental Health".

Once again, we will host a virtual exhibitor hall for healthcare-related companies to showcase their products and services.

Contact info, exhibitor opportunities

If you know any healthcare or legal professionals who may want to attend, please spread the word, and encourage them to register. If you have questions or know an organization who might be interested in exhibiting, email us at medsymposium@bwc.state.oh.us.

Provider group practice enrollment record consolidation

BWC's provider enrollment department is contacting provider group practices with multiple records (suffixes) under the same tax ID and National Provider Identifier (NPI) to offer consolidation of those multiple records into one active record.

Our former practice of assigning each group practice address a different enrollment record/identifier (suffix) number is no longer used for new group practices or needed for existing group practices with multiple locations meeting these criteria.

Active group practice record

Once updated, the one active group practice record remaining will contain all the current practice's address locations. Our website provider lookup, and the *My Provider Info* portal will reflect the updates. This will conveniently allow maintenance of only one enrollment record and allow providers to bill solely with the NPI as the pay-to number.

Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) will also be given the system updates showing all addresses in one record, and former records no longer needed will become deactivated.

If you have any questions about this project, email Kaytlin.Y.1@bwc.state.oh.us or call us at 800-477-2292.

A closer look at medication prior authorization requests

A *Request for Prior Authorization of Medication* (MEDCO-31) must be submitted for any medication billed beyond 270 days of the last paid prescription. A pharmacy might not be billing BWC if:

1. The correct billing information is unknown.
2. The injured worker does not notify the pharmacy that the medication is workers' compensation related.
3. The medication is being billed to a primary insurance or another payor.

If the pharmacy's attempts to bill BWC results in a single rejection message of "PA (prior authorization) Required. No Activity for 270 Days," the prescriber will need to complete a PA request.

The prescriber must fax the fully completed PA form with supporting current medical office notes to BWC's pharmacy department for clinical review at 866-213-6066.

During office visits, the prescriber can confirm with the injured worker if BWC is being billed for medications. The injured worker should routinely verify billing at the pharmacy.

Contact our dedicated pharmacy contact center by email or phone with questions.

- Pharmacy.benefits@bwc.state.oh.us

- 1-877-543-6446 available Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ambulatory Surgical Center fee schedule update

BWC's annual update to the ambulatory surgical center reimbursement rule, Ohio Administrative Code 4123-6-37.3, is effective for dates of service after May 1, 2023. BWC is updating rates to eight previously adopted joint replacement procedures that are in the ASC Arthroplasty program. These eight procedures can only be reimbursed when provided at an ASC if that facility is certified through the BWC Arthroplasty program.

In addition, Medicare's new C-APC protocol is being adopted. The new C-APC protocol allows a higher reimbursement rate when certain surgical procedures are billed with specific add-on codes. Also adopted in this update are the JW and JZ modifiers. Those modifiers are used with single-use medications to indicate when medication administration has wasted medication (JW) or when it is used completely without any waste (JZ). All updates to the rule are published on BWC's website.

Providers can download, view and print any of BWC's medical fee schedules [here](#).

Clarifying BWC arthroplasty certification for Ambulatory Surgery Centers

Updates to **BRM-33: Arthroplasty Certification for Ambulatory Surgery Centers** clarifies requirements ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) need to meet to receive arthroplasty certification. This certification allows approved ASCs to perform select arthroplasty procedures that are generally only permitted in the hospital inpatient or outpatient delivery setting.

Providers can identify the eight procedures covered under this special program in the [ASC fee schedule](#) by filtering on the arthroplasty coverage "AC". The new policy clarifies rule requirements, including highlighting how the rule's current patient selection criteria applies only to BWC injured workers.

In addition, a more simplified new certification application is included as an addendum to the policy. You can find the new policy in the [New/Revised/Update](#) section of the provider Billing and Reimbursement Manual as of Feb. 1, 2023.

Please send fee schedule questions by [email](#) or call our provider contact center at 1-800-477-2292. You may view the fee schedule rule and files on our website and reference the provider Billing and Reimbursement Manual for additional information.

Outpatient fee schedule update

BWC's annual update to the outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS), Ohio Administrative Code 4123-6-37.2, is effective for dates of service after May 1, 2023. The 2023 OPPS fee schedule includes an update to the payment adjustment factors for Children's hospitals (2.984) and Non-children's hospitals (1.441). BWC is also adopting the second and final phase of the site differential methodology which will result in a 60% reduction applied to all off-campus provider-based departments (modifiers PO and PN).

In Addition, drugs and biologicals acquired through the 340B program will be paid at ASP +6%. Also included in the update is the new Rural Emergency Hospital payment update. All updates to the rule, including BWC deviations, are published on bwc.ohio.gov.

Providers can download, view and print any of BWC's medical fee schedules [here](#).

BWC transitional work developers: Don't let your accreditation lapse



Attend one of the upcoming 2023 reaccreditation webinar classes:

- 11 a.m., June 13
- 11 a.m., July 19
- Noon, Sept. 19
- Noon, Nov. 15

Registration is easy!

Click on the *Transitional Work Developer's Reaccreditation Application* ([TWD-116](#)) to register and indicate your preferred class date in the upper right corner box of the application. Return your application to TWSupport@bwc.state.oh.us.

Check the [list of BWC-accredited transitional work developers](#) on our website to see if you are due to renew.

Send any webinar questions by [email](#) to Tina Elliott.



MCO open enrollment is May 1 - 26

The open enrollment period for Ohio employers to select a managed care organization (MCO) to oversee medical management for workers injured on the job begins, Monday, May 1, and continues through Friday, May 26. We offer open enrollment every two years for employers to select from a network of 10 MCOs that manage claim filings and medical care that injured workers need to recover and return to work.

No action is needed from employers satisfied with their current MCO. Those considering a change can find details in our [MCO Selection Guide](#). BWC's website also includes our [MCO Report Card](#), an objective source of information that summarizes each MCO's performance in several categories, including timeliness of service, accuracy in processing medical payments, and employer satisfaction survey results.

Current providers treating injured workers with employers who changed their MCOs will be notified of the workers' new MCO.

[Click here](#) for the enrollment form on our website. MCO changes will be effective June 26, 2023.

Upcoming meetings

All public meetings of the Health Care Quality Assurance Advisory Committee (HCQAAC), managed care organization (MCO) Medical Directors, and Pharmacy & Therapeutics committee are in-person at BWC's William Green Building (30 W. Spring St. Columbus, Ohio).



The next scheduled meetings are:

- **HCQAAC** from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., May 10, 2023
- **P & T** from 1 – 3 p.m., May 10, 2023
- **MCO Medical Directors** from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., July 12, 2023

To request an accommodation due to a disability for this event, contact BWC ADA Coordinator Kathleen Bourke. Please call Kathleen at 614-644-7811 or email eeodept@bwc.state.oh.us, at least one week prior to the meeting date.



**Bureau of Workers'
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Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Vision: To transform BWC into an agile organization driven by customer success.

Mission: To deliver consistently excellent experiences for each BWC customer every day.

Core Values: One Agency, Personal Connection, Innovative Leadership, Relentless Excellence.

Established in 1912, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation is the exclusive provider of workers' compensation insurance in Ohio, serving 257,000 public and private employers. With nearly 1,600 employees and assets of approximately \$21 billion, BWC is one of the largest state-run insurance systems in the United States. For more, visit www.bwc.ohio.gov.

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