

Title	Description
Policy Name:	Use of Treatment Guidelines
Policy Number:	BRM-2017-10
Code/Rule Reference:	OAC 4123-6-16.1 , OAC 4123-6-16.2 , OAC 4123-6-16
Effective Date:	10/1/2017
Supersedes:	All medical policies, directives, and memos regarding the use of treatment guidelines that predate the effective date of this policy.
History:	Rev. 10/1/2017, Republished 4/1/2024
Review date:	10/1/2026

I. POLICY PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify that Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) use nationally recognized treatment guidelines to evaluate the necessity and/or effectiveness of medical care. They also use these guidelines to communicate with and educate providers in all decision correspondence. MCOs will work with providers to ensure and support prompt, cost-effective health care for injured workers to facilitate an early, safe, and sustained return to work, quality of life and claim resolution. Treatment guidelines are based on treatment types and provide uniformity to the system. The parameters work for the majority of injured workers, but there may be exceptions. For those exceptions, the MCO and physician must work together to find the most appropriate course of treatment for the injured worker.

II. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all actions related to the request, approval, and reimbursement of medical fees to providers within the Ohio workers' compensation system.

III. DEFINITIONS

Not applicable.

IV. POLICY

- A. BWC and the MCO shall refer to treatment guidelines adopted by BWC while reviewing medical treatment requests under [OAC 4123-6-16.2](#) and conducting independent reviews of medical disputes under [OAC 4123-6-16](#).
- B. The treatment guidelines adopted by BWC are the [Official Disability Guidelines](#).
- C. Ohio providers can take advantage of the BWC negotiated price if the provider orders on Website www.WorkLossData.com or calls (800) 488-5548.