

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

“WHAT’S NEW AT OSHA?”

- Explain new OSHA regulations.
- Describe updates or changes to prior regulations.
- Describe current OSHA concerns with focus on local industry.
- Identify resources for physicians and employers to aid with compliance.
- Discuss the current status of the VPP program.

“TAKING THE 5TH: RESULTS OF THE GUIDES COMPARISON STUDIES.”

- Discuss the most significant changes from the Third Edition revised to the Fifth.
- Identify the types of ratings that will be most significantly impacted.
- Discuss the challenges involved in making use of the Fifth Edition.

“ART AND SCIENCE ON THE WITNESS STAND.”

- Discuss the role of the expert medical witness.
- Discuss how to be effective in deposition and testimony.
- Define key terms used in medicolegal testimony.

“PERMANENT RESTRICTIONS: NOW WHAT?”

- Identify the best terminology to describe restrictions and what to avoid.
- Learn what the worker reporting requirements are to a new employer.
- Explain the role of the ADA in these cases.
- Recognize the proper process should a worker want to change the restrictions.

“FUTURE MEDICAL: WHAT IS REASONABLE?”

- Identify what medications are appropriate for long-term administration after an injured worker reaches MMI.
- The attendee should identify follow up measures should be taken to monitor and maintain the use of medications administered on a long-term basis after an injured worker reaches MMI, such as NSAIDs or narcotics.
- Discuss appropriate therapies and follow up medical evaluations after an injured worker reaches MMI.
- Identify what durable medical equipment is appropriate after an injured worker reaches MMI.
- Identify the impact of a settlement between the worker and insurer and its impact on future medical care of the worker.

“MMI: GOING BEYOND THE QUOTE.”

- Explain the legal definition of MMI.
- Define the medical implications of that definition for treating physicians.
- Describe the role of the Division guidelines in determining MMI.
- Recognize situations where medical maintenance can help to facilitate MMI.

“OLDER WORKERS, WORK, AND INJURY

- Understand the relationship between aging and work performance.
- Identify the most consistent physiologic and functional changes associated with aging
- Describe at least 3 specific approaches to prevent disability in aging workers.

“WHAT’S NEW IN COLORADO?”

- Describe legislative and administrative updates in workers’ compensation in Colorado.
- Discuss the impact of these changes on the delivery of healthcare to workers, including HIPAA.
- Discuss current issues at the Division and potential upcoming changes.

“THE USE OF THE DIVISION INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXAMINATION (DIME) IN LITIGATION”

- Identify the triggers that prompt the need for a DIME.
- Explain the role of the DIME in the litigation process.
- Comprehend the strengths and limitations of the DIME.
- Describe the legal implications of multiple IME’s.

“CRPS REVISITED: FINDING APPROPRIATE SYMPATHY FOR SYMPATHETIC PAIN.”

- Define CRPS I and II.
- Discuss developments in the understanding of its pathophysiology and natural history.
- Review diagnostic considerations.
- Review appropriate pharmacological agents, discussing mechanism of action, which may be unique to CRPS.
- Discuss other forms of therapeutic intervention.

“CAUSATION AND APPORTIONMENT: PUTTING IT TOGETHER FOR PRIMARY CARE”

- Explain the legal definition of causation.
- Discuss the steps used to determine causation.
- Differentiate temporary versus permanent aggravation of a preexisting condition.
- Define apportionment.
- Describe indications for apportionment and it’s proper application.

“IMPAIRMENT RATINGS: HOW THEY TURN INTO DISABILITY”

- Review the legal definition of impairment and disability.
- Discuss the factors used in the determination of disability.
- Describe the “ideal” medical report to assist in this endeavor.
- Discuss the impact of occupation on the determination of disability.

“OH, MY ACHING HEAD: UPDATE IN HEADACHE MANAGEMENT IN MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN SYNDROME”

- Discuss developments in the understanding of its pathophysiology and natural history.
- Describe the multiple contributing factors including cervicogenic pain and secondary migraine.
- Review diagnostic considerations.
- Review appropriate pharmacological agents, discussing mechanism of action,.
- Discuss other forms of therapeutic intervention.

“PEARLS OF WISDOM.”

- Present interesting and/or unusual case histories.
- Discuss a review of the literature.
- Describe updates in diagnostic or treatment considerations when relevant.

“HOW PHYSICIANS CAN IMPROVE THEIR MMI REPORTS.”

- Describe the critical information needed from medical reports from the perspective of an administrative law judge, plaintiff and defense attorneys, insurance, and the state Division of Workers’ Compensation.
- Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of current typical medical reports.
- Strategize to outline an optimal medical report format to best relay the necessary information.

