

## TIME OF HIRE PAMPHLET

This pamphlet, or a similar one that has been approved by the Administrative Director, must be given to all newly hired employees in the State of California. Employers and claims administrators may use the content of this document and put their logos and additional information on it. The content of this pamphlet applies to all industrial injuries that occur on or after January 1, 2013.

### WHAT IS WORKERS' COMPENSATION?

If you get hurt on the job, your employer is required by law to pay for workers' compensation benefits. You could get hurt by:

One event at work. Examples: hurting your back in a fall, getting burned by a chemical that splashes on your skin, getting hurt in a car accident while making deliveries.

—or—

Repeated exposures at work. Examples: hurting your wrist from using vibrating tools, losing your hearing because of constant loud noise.

—or—

Workplace crime. Examples: you get hurt in a store robbery, physically attacked by an unhappy customer.

### Discrimination is illegal

It is illegal under Labor Code section 132a for your employer to punish or fire you because you:

- File a workers' compensation claim
- Intend to file a workers' compensation claim
- Settle a workers' compensation claim
- Testify or intend to testify for another injured worker.

If it is found that your employer discriminated against you, he or she may be ordered to return you to your job. Your employer may also be made to pay for lost wages, increased workers' compensation benefits, and costs and expenses set by state law.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- **Medical care:** Paid for by your employer to help you recover from an injury or illness caused by work. Doctor visits, hospital services, physical therapy, lab tests and x-rays are some of the medical services that may be provided. These services should be necessary to treat your injury. There are limits on some services such as physical and occupational therapy and chiropractic care.

- **Temporary disability benefits:** Payments if you lose wages because your injury prevents you from doing your usual job while recovering. The amount you may get is up to two-thirds of your wages. There are minimum and maximum payment limits set by state law. You will be paid every two weeks if you are eligible. For most injuries, payments may not exceed 104 weeks within five years from your date of injury. Temporary disability (TD) stops when you return to work, or when the doctor releases you for work, or says your injury has improved as much as it's going to.
  
- **Permanent disability benefits:** Payments if you don't recover completely. You will be paid every two weeks if you are eligible. There are minimum and maximum weekly payment rates established by state law. The amount of payment is based on:
  - Your doctor's medical reports
  - Your age
  - Your occupation
  
- **Supplemental job displacement benefits:** This is a voucher for up to \$6,000 that you can use for retraining or skill enhancement at an approved school, books, tools, licenses or certification fees, or other resources to help you find a new job. You are eligible for this voucher if:
  - You have a permanent disability.
  - Your employer does not offer regular, modified, or alternative work, within 60 days after the claims administrator receives a doctor's report saying you have made a maximum medical recovery.
  
- **Death benefits:** Payments to your spouse, children or other dependents if you die from a job injury or illness. The amount of payment is based on the number of dependents. The benefit is paid every two weeks at a rate of at least \$224 per week. In addition, workers' compensation provides a burial allowance.

### **OTHER BENEFITS**

You may file a claim with the Employment Development Department (EDD) to get state disability benefits when workers' compensation benefits are delayed, denied, or have ended. There are time restrictions so for more information contact the local office of EDD or go to their web site [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov).

If your injury results in a permanent disability (PD) and the state determines that your PD benefit is disproportionately low compared to your earning loss, you may qualify for additional money from the Department of Industrial Relation's special earnings loss supplement program also known as the return to work program. If you have questions or think you qualify, contact the Information & Assistance Unit by going to [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov) and looking under "Workers'

Compensation programs and units” for the “Information & Assistance Unit” link or visit the DIR web site at [www.dir.ca.gov](http://www.dir.ca.gov).

**Workers’ compensation fraud is a crime**

Any person who makes or causes to be made any knowingly false statement in order to obtain or deny workers’ compensation benefits or payments is guilty of a felony. If convicted, the person will have to pay fines up to \$150,000 and/or serve up to five years in jail.

**WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE AN INJURY?**

**Report your injury to your employer**

Tell your supervisor right away no matter how slight the injury may be. Don’t delay – there are time limits. You could lose your right to benefits if your employer does not learn of your injury within 30 days. If your injury or illness is one that develops over time, report it as soon as you learn it was caused by your job.

If you cannot report to the employer or don’t hear from the claims administrator after you have reported your injury, contact the claims administrator yourself.

**Workers’ compensation insurance company or if employer is self-insured, person responsible for handling the claim is:**

UWIC - Claims Administrator: Next Level Administrators

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 877-306-6398.

You may be able to find the name of your employer’s workers’ compensation insurer at [www.caworkcompcoverage.com](http://www.caworkcompcoverage.com). If no coverage exists or coverage has expired, contact the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement at [www.dir.ca.gov/DLSE](http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSE) as all employees must be covered by law.

**Get emergency treatment if needed**

If it’s a medical emergency, go to an emergency room right away. Tell the medical provider who treats you that your injury is job related. Your employer may tell you where to go for follow up treatment.

**Emergency telephone number:** Call 911 for an ambulance, fire department or police. For non-emergency medical care, contact your employer, the workers' compensation claims administrator or go to this facility:

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### **Fill out DWC 1 claim form and give it to your employer**

Your employer must give you a [DWC 1 claim form](#) within one working day after learning about your injury or illness. Complete the employee portion, sign and give it back to your employer. Your employer will then file your claim with the claims administrator. Your employer must authorize treatment within one working day of receiving the DWC 1 claim form.

If the injury is from repeated exposures, you have one year from when you realized your injury was job related to file a claim.

In either case, you may receive up to \$10,000 in employer-paid medical care until your claim is either accepted or denied. The claims administrator has up to 90 days to decide whether to accept or deny your claim. Otherwise your case is presumed payable.

Your employer or the claims administrator will send you "benefit notices" that will advise you of the status of your claim.

## **MORE ABOUT MEDICAL CARE**

### **What is a Primary Treating Physician (PTP)?**

This is the doctor with overall responsibility for treating your injury or illness. He or she may be:

- The doctor you name in writing *before* you get hurt on the job
- A doctor from the medical provider network (MPN)
- The doctor chosen by your employer during the first 30 days of injury if your employer does not have an MPN or
- The doctor you chose after the first 30 days if your employer does not have an MPN.

### **What is a Medical Provider Network (MPN)?**

An MPN is a select group of health care providers who treat injured workers. Check with your employer to see if they are using an MPN.

If you have not named a doctor before you get hurt and your employer is using an MPN, you will see an MPN doctor. After your first visit, you are free to choose another doctor from the MPN list.

### **What is Predesignation?**

Predesignation is when you name your regular doctor to treat you if you get hurt on the job. The doctor must be a medical doctor (M.D.), doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) or a medical group with an M.D. or D.O. You must name your doctor in writing *before* you get hurt or become ill.

You may predesignate a doctor if you have health care coverage for non-work injuries and illnesses. The doctor must have:

- Treated you
- Maintained your medical history and records before your injury and
- Agreed to treat you for a work-related injury or illness before you get hurt or become ill.

You may use the “predesignation of personal physician” form included with this pamphlet. After you fill in the form, be sure to give it to your employer.

If your employer does not have an approved MPN, you may name your chiropractor or acupuncturist to treat you for work related injuries. The notice of personal chiropractor or acupuncturist must be in writing *before* you get hurt. You may use the form included in this pamphlet. After you fill in the form, be sure to give it to your employer.

With some exceptions, state law does not allow a chiropractor to continue as your treating physician after 24 visits. Once you have received 24 chiropractic visits, if you still require medical treatment, you will have to select a new physician who is not a chiropractor. The term “chiropractic visit” means any chiropractic office visit, regardless of whether the services performed involve chiropractic manipulation or are limited to evaluation and management.

Exceptions to the prohibition on a chiropractor continuing as your treating physician after 24 visits include postsurgical physical medicine visits prescribed by the surgeon, or physician designated by the surgeon, under the postsurgical component of the Division of Workers’ Compensation’s Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule, or if your employer has authorized additional visits in writing.

#### WHAT IF THERE IS A PROBLEM?

If you have a concern, speak up. Talk to your employer or the claims administrator handling your claim and try to solve the problem. If this doesn’t work, get help by trying the following:

**Contact the Division of Workers’ Compensation (DWC) Information and Assistance (I&A) Unit**  
All 24 DWC offices throughout the state provide information and assistance on rights, benefits and obligations under California's workers' compensation laws. I&A officers help resolve disputes without formal proceedings. Their goal is to get you full and timely benefits. Their services are free.

To contact the nearest I&A Unit, go to [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov) and under “Workers’ Compensation programs and units”, click on “Information & Assistance Unit.” At this site you will find fact sheets, guides and information to help you.

The nearest I&A Unit is located at:  Address: _____  Phone number: _____.
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**Consult with an attorney**

Most attorneys offer one free consultation. If you decide to hire an attorney, his or her fees may be taken out of some of your benefits. For names of workers' compensation attorneys, call the State Bar of California at (415) 538-2120 or go to their website at [www.californiaspecialist.org](http://www.californiaspecialist.org). You may get a list of attorneys from your local I&A Unit or look in the yellow pages.

**Warning**

Your employer may not pay workers' compensation benefits if you get hurt in a voluntary off-duty recreational, social or athletic activity that is not part of your work-related duties.

**Additional rights**

You may also have other rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA). For additional information, contact FEHA at (800) 884-1684 or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) at (800) 669-4000.

The information contained in this pamphlet conforms to the informational requirements found in Labor Code sections 3551 and 3553 and California Code of Regulation, Title 8, sections 9880 and 9883. This document is approved by the Division of Workers' Compensation administrative director.

Revised 6/17/14 and effective for dates of injuries on or after 1/1/13

## PREDESIGNATION OF PERSONAL PHYSICIAN

In the event you sustain an injury or illness related to your employment, you may be treated for such injury or illness by your personal medical doctor (M.D.), doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) or medical group if:

- on the date of your work injury you have health care coverage for injuries or illnesses that are not work related;
- the doctor is your regular physician, who shall be either a physician who has limited his or her practice of medicine to general practice or who is a board-certified or board-eligible internist, pediatrician, obstetrician-gynecologist, or family practitioner, and has previously directed your medical treatment, and retains your medical records;
- your "personal physician" may be a medical group if it is a single corporation or partnership composed of licensed doctors of medicine or osteopathy, which operates an integrated multispecialty medical group providing comprehensive medical services predominantly for nonoccupational illnesses and injuries;
- prior to the injury your doctor agrees to treat you for work injuries or illnesses;
- prior to the injury you provided your employer the following in writing: (1) notice that you want your personal doctor to treat you for a work-related injury or illness, and (2) your personal doctor's name and business address.

You may use this form to notify your employer if you wish to have your personal medical doctor or a doctor of osteopathic medicine treat you for a work-related injury or illness and the above requirements are met.

### NOTICE OF PREDESIGNATION OF PERSONAL PHYSICIAN

**Employee: Complete this section.**

To: \_\_\_\_\_ (name of employer) If I have a work-related injury or illness, I choose to be treated by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name of doctor)(M.D., D.O., or medical group)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(street address, city, state, ZIP)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(telephone number)

Employee Name (please print):

Employee's Address:

Name of Insurance Company, Plan, or Fund providing health coverage for nonoccupational injuries or illnesses:

Employee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Physician: I agree to this Predesignation:**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Physician or Designated Employee of the Physician or Medical Group)

The physician is not required to sign this form, however, if the physician or designated employee of the physician or medical group does not sign, other documentation of the physician's agreement to be predesignated will be required pursuant to Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 9780.1(a)(3).

**§ 9783.1. DWC Form 9783.1 Notice of Personal Chiropractor or Personal Acupuncturist.**

**NOTICE OF PERSONAL CHIROPRACTOR OR PERSONAL ACUPUNCTURIST**

If your employer or your employer's insurer does not have a Medical Provider Network, you may be able to change your treating physician to your personal chiropractor or acupuncturist following a work-related injury or illness. In order to be eligible to make this change, you must give your employer the name and business address of a personal chiropractor or acupuncturist in writing prior to the injury or illness. Your claims administrator generally has the right to select your treating physician within the first 30 days after your employer knows of your injury or illness. After your claims administrator has initiated your treatment with another doctor during this period, you may then, upon request, have your treatment transferred to your personal chiropractor or acupuncturist.

**NOTE:** If your date of injury is January 1, 2004 or later, a chiropractor cannot be your treating physician after you have received 24 chiropractic visits unless your employer has authorized additional visits in writing. The term "chiropractic visit" means any chiropractic office visit, regardless of whether the services performed involve chiropractic manipulation or are limited to evaluation and management. Once you have received 24 chiropractic visits, if you still require medical treatment, you will have to select a new physician who is not a chiropractor. This prohibition shall not apply to visits for postsurgical physical medicine visits prescribed by the surgeon, or physician designated by the surgeon, under the postsurgical component of the Division of Workers' Compensation's Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule.

You may use this form to notify your employer of your personal chiropractor or acupuncturist.

**Your Chiropractor or Acupuncturist's Information:**

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**(name of chiropractor or acupuncturist)**

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**(street address, city, state, zip code)**

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**(telephone number)**

Employee Name **(please print)**:

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Employee's Address:

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Employee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

You may be entitled to workers' compensation benefits if you are injured or become ill because of your job. Workers' compensation covers most work-related physical or mental injuries and illnesses. An injury or illness can be caused by one event (such as hurting your back in a fall) or by repeated exposures (such as hurting your wrist from doing the same motion over and over).

**Benefits.** Workers' compensation benefits include:

- **Medical Care:** Doctor visits, hospital services, physical therapy, lab tests, x-rays, medicines, medical equipment and travel costs that are reasonably necessary to treat your injury. You should never see a bill. There are limits on chiropractic, physical therapy and occupational therapy visits.
- **Temporary Disability (TD) Benefits:** Payments if you lose wages while recovering. For most injuries, TD benefits may not be paid for more than 104 weeks within five years from the date of injury.
- **Permanent Disability (PD) Benefits:** Payments if you do not recover completely and your injury causes a permanent loss of physical or mental function that a doctor can measure.
- **Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit:** A nontransferable voucher, if you are injured on or after 1/1/2004, your injury causes permanent disability, and your employer does not offer you regular, modified, or alternative work.
- **Death Benefits:** Paid to your dependents if you die from a work-related injury or illness.

**Naming Your Own Physician Before Injury or Illness (Predesignation).** You may be able to choose the doctor who will treat you for a job injury or illness. If eligible, you must tell your employer, in writing, the name and address of your personal physician or medical group *before* you are injured. You must obtain their agreement to treat you for your work injury. For instructions, see the written information about workers' compensation that your employer is required to give to new employees.

**If You Get Hurt:**

1. **Get Medical Care.** If you need emergency care, call 911 for help immediately from the hospital, ambulance, fire department or police department. If you need first aid, contact your employer.
2. **Report Your Injury.** Report the injury immediately to your supervisor or to an employer representative. Don't delay. There are time limits. If you wait too long, you may lose your right to benefits. Your employer is required to provide you with a claim form within one working day after learning about your injury. Within one working day after you file a claim form, your employer or claims administrator must authorize the provision of all treatment, up to ten thousand dollars, consistent with the applicable treatment guidelines, for your alleged injury until the claim is accepted or rejected.
3. **See Your Primary Treating Physician (PTP).** This is the doctor with overall responsibility for treating your injury or illness.
  - If you predesignated your personal physician or a medical group, you may see your personal physician or the medical group after you are injured.
  - If your employer is using a medical provider network (MPN) or a health care organization (HCO), in most cases you will be treated within the MPN or HCO unless you predesignated a personal physician or medical group. An MPN is a group of physicians and health care providers who provide treatment to workers injured on the job. You should receive information from your employer if you are covered by an HCO or a MPN. Contact your employer for more information.
  - If your employer is not using an MPN or HCO, in most cases the claims administrator can choose the doctor who first treats you when you are injured, unless you predesignated a personal physician or medical group.
4. **Medical Provider Networks.** Your employer may be using an MPN, which is a group of health care providers designated to provide treatment to workers injured on the job. If you have predesignated a personal physician or medical group prior to your work injury, then you may go there to receive treatment from your predesignated doctor. If you are treating with a non-MPN doctor for an existing injury, you may be required to change to a doctor within the MPN. For more information, see the MPN contact information below:

MPN website: [genexservices.com](http://genexservices.com)

MPN Effective Date: 6/30/2020 MPN Identification number: 3084

If you need help locating an MPN physician, call your MPN access assistant at: 800-560-8247

If you have questions about the MPN or want to file a complaint against the MPN, call the MPN Contact Person at: (800) 822-6099x8

**Discrimination.** It is illegal for your employer to punish or fire you for having a work injury or illness, for filing a claim, or testifying in another person's workers' compensation case. If proven, you may receive lost wages, job reinstatement, increased benefits, and costs and expenses up to limits set by the state.

**Questions?** Learn more about workers' compensation by reading the information that your employer is required to give you at time of hire. If you have questions, see your employer or the claims administrator (who handles workers' compensation claims for your employer):

Claims Administrator Next Level Administrators Phone 877-306-6398

Workers' compensation insurer UWIC (Enter "self-insured" if appropriate)

You can also get free information from a State Division of Workers' Compensation Information (DWC) & Assistance Officer. The nearest Information & Assistance Officer can be found at location: \_\_\_\_\_ or by calling toll-free **(800) 736-7401**. Learn more information about workers' compensation online: [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov) and access a useful booklet "Workers' Compensation in California: A Guidebook for Injured Workers."

**False claims and false denials.** Any person who makes or causes to be made any knowingly false or fraudulent material statement or material representation for the purpose of obtaining or denying workers' compensation benefits or payments is guilty of a felony and may be fined and imprisoned

**Important Information about Medical Care if You Have a  
Work-Related Injury or Illness**

**Complete Written Employee Notification Re: Medical Provider Network**  
(Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 9767.12)

California law requires your employer to provide and pay for medical treatment if you are injured at work. Your employer has chosen to provide this medical care by using a Workers' Compensation physician network called a Medical Provider Network (MPN). This notification tells you what you need to know about the MPN program and describes your rights in choosing medical care for work-related injuries and illnesses.

- **What happens if I get injured at work?**

**In case of an emergency, you should call 911 or go to the closest emergency room.**

If you are injured at work, notify your employer as soon as possible. Your employer will provide you with a claim form. When you notify your employer that you have had a work-related injury, your employer or insurer will make an initial appointment with a doctor in the MPN.

- **What is an MPN?**

A Medical Provider Network (MPN) is a group of health care providers (physicians and other medical providers) used by your employer to treat workers injured on the job. MPNs must allow employees to have a choice of provider(s). Each MPN must include a mix of doctors specializing in work-related injuries and doctors with expertise in general areas of medicine.

- **What MPN is used by my employer?**

Your employer is using the Genex MPN with the identification number **3084**. You must refer to the MPN name and the MPN identification number whenever you have questions or requests about the MPN.

- **Who can I contact if I have questions about my MPN?**

The MPN Contact listed in this notification will be able to answer your questions about the use of the MPN and will address any complaints regarding the MPN.

The contact for your MPN is:

Name: Genex Services

Title: CA MPN

Address: 888 South Disneyland Dr. Suite 300, Anaheim, CA 92802

Telephone Number: (800) 822-6099 Press 8

Email address: [genexmpnservices@genexservices.com](mailto:genexmpnservices@genexservices.com)

General information regarding the MPN can also be found at the following website:

[www.genexservices.com](http://www.genexservices.com), Solutions>Certified Managed Care Plans>California (Medical Provider Network).

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- **What if I need help finding and making an appointment with a doctor?**

The MPN's Medical Access Assistant will help you find available MPN physicians of your choice and can assist you with scheduling and confirming physician appointments. The Medical Access Assistant is available to assist you Monday through Saturday from 7am-8pm (Pacific) and schedule medical appointments during doctors' normal business hours. Assistance is available in English and in Spanish.

The contact information for the Medical Access Assistant is:

Toll Free Telephone Number: 800-560-8247

Fax Number: 866-266-8702

Email Address: [MPNMAA@genexservices.com](mailto:MPNMAA@genexservices.com)

- **How do I find out which doctors are in my MPN?**

You can get a regional list of all MPN providers in your area by calling the MPN Contact or by going to our website at: [genexservices.com](http://genexservices.com) Click on Find a Provider/Genex-Provider-Pathway enter **username:** Genex6 **password:** CAMPN6. At minimum, the regional list must include a list of all MPN providers within 15 miles of your workplace and/or residence by utilizing the "Address Search" tab or a list of all MPN providers within the county where you live and/or work by utilizing the "Region Search" tab. You may choose which list you wish to receive. You also have the right to obtain a list of all the MPN providers upon request.

You can access the roster of all treating physicians in the MPN by going to the website at [genexservices.com](http://genexservices.com) Click on Find a Provider/Genex-Provider-Pathway enter **username:** Genex6 **password:** CAMPN6 Click on the "Roster of CA MPN Treating Physicians".

- **How do I choose a provider?**

Your employer or the insurer for your employer will arrange the initial medical evaluation with a MPN physician. After the first medical visit, you may continue to be treated by that doctor, or you may choose another doctor from the MPN. You may continue to choose doctors within the MPN for all of your medical care for this injury.

If appropriate, you may choose a specialist or ask your treating doctor for a referral to a specialist. Some specialists will only accept appointments with a referral from the treating doctor. Such specialist might be listed as "by referral only" in your MPN directory.

If you need help in finding a doctor or scheduling a medical appointment, you may call the Medical Access Assistant.

- **Can I change providers?**

Yes. You can change providers within the MPN for any reason, but the providers you choose should be appropriate to treat your injury. Contact the MPN Contact or your claims adjuster if you want to change your treating physician.

- **What standards does the MPN have to meet?**

The MPN has providers throughout the ENTIRE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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The MPN must give you access to a regional list of providers that includes at least three physicians in each specialty commonly used to treat work injuries/illnesses in your industry. The MPN must provide access to primary treating physicians within 30 minutes or 15 miles and specialists within 60 minutes or 30 miles of where you work or live.

If you live in a rural area or an area where there is a health care shortage, there may be a different standard.

After you have notified your employer of your injury, the MPN must provide initial treatment within 3 business days. If treatment with a specialist has been authorized, the appointment with the specialist must be provided to you within 20 business days of your request.

If you have trouble getting an appointment with a provider in the MPN, contact the Medical Access Assistant.

If there are no MPN providers in the appropriate specialty available to treat your injury within the distance and timeframe requirements, then you will be allowed to seek the necessary treatment outside of the MPN.

- **What if there are no MPN providers where I am located?**

If you are a current employee living in a rural area or temporarily working or living outside the MPN service area, or you are a former employee permanently living outside the MPN service area, the MPN or your treating doctor will give you a list of at least three physicians who can treat you. The MPN may also allow you to choose your own doctor outside of the MPN network. Contact your MPN Contact for assistance in finding a physician or for additional information.

- **What if I need a specialist that is not available in the MPN?**

If you need to see a type of specialist that is not available in the MPN, you have the right to see a specialist outside of the MPN.

- **What if I disagree with my doctor about medical treatment?**

If you disagree with your doctor or wish to change your doctor for any reason, you may choose another doctor within the MPN.

If you disagree with either the diagnosis or treatment prescribed by your doctor, you may ask for a second opinion from another doctor within the MPN. If you want a second opinion, you must contact the MPN contact or your claims adjuster and tell them you want a second opinion. The MPN should give you at least a regional or full MPN provider list from which you can choose a second opinion doctor. To get a second opinion, you must choose a doctor from the MPN list and make an appointment within 60 days. You must tell the MPN Contact of your appointment date, and the MPN will send the doctor a copy of your medical records. You can request a copy of your medical records that will be sent to the doctor.

If you do not make an appointment within 60 days of receiving the regional provider list, you will not be allowed to have a second or third opinion with regard to this disputed diagnosis or treatment of this treating physician.

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If the second-opinion doctor feels that your injury is outside of the type of injury he or she normally treats, the doctor's office will notify your employer or insurer and you. You will get another list of MPN doctors or specialists so you can make another selection.

If you disagree with the second opinion, you may ask for a third opinion. If you request a third opinion, you will go through the same process you went through for the second opinion.

Remember that if you do not make an appointment within 60 days of obtaining another MPN provider list, then you will not be allowed to have a third opinion with regard to this disputed diagnosis or treatment of this treating physician.

If you disagree with the third-opinion doctor, you may ask for an MPN Independent Medical Review (MPN IMR). Your employer or MPN Contact will give you information on requesting an Independent Medical Review and a form at the time you select a third-opinion physician.

If either the second or third-opinion doctor or MPN Independent Medical Reviewer agrees with your need for a treatment or test, you may be allowed to receive that medical service from a provider within the MPN or if the MPN does not contain a physician who can provide the recommended treatment, you may choose a physician outside the MPN within a reasonable geographic area.

- **What if I am already being treated for a work-related injury before the MPN begins?**

Your employer or insurer has a “*Transfer of Care*” policy which will determine if you can continue being temporarily treated for an existing work-related injury by a physician outside of the MPN before your care is transferred into the MPN.

If your current doctor is not or does not become a member of the MPN, then you may be required to see a MPN physician. However, if you have properly predesignated a primary treating physician, you cannot be transferred into the MPN. (If you have questions about predesignation, ask your supervisor.)

If your employer decides to transfer you into the MPN, you and your primary treating physician must receive a letter notifying you of the transfer.

If you meet certain conditions, you may qualify to continue treating with a non-MPN physician for up to a year before you are transferred into the MPN. The qualifying conditions to postpone the transfer of your care into the MPN are set forth in the box below.

***Can I Continue Being Treated By My Doctor?***

You may qualify for continuing treatment with your non-MPN provider (through transfer of care or continuity of care) for up to a year if your injury or illness meets any of the following conditions:

- **(Acute)** The treatment for your injury or illness will be completed in less than 90 days;
- **(Serious or Chronic)** Your injury or illness is one that is serious and continues for at least 90 days without full cure or worsens and requires ongoing treatment. You may be allowed to be treated by your current treating doctor for up to one year, until a safe transfer of care can be made.
- **(Terminal)** You have an incurable illness or irreversible condition that is likely to cause death within one year or less.
- **(Pending Surgery)** You already have a surgery or other procedure that has been authorized by your employer or insurer that will occur within 180 days of the MPN effective date, or the termination of contract date between the MPN and your doctor.

You can disagree with your employer's decision to transfer your care into the MPN. If you don't want to be transferred into the MPN, ask your primary treating physician for a medical report on whether you have one of the four conditions stated above to qualify for a postponement of your transfer into the MPN.

Your primary treating physician has 20 days from the date of your request to give you a copy of his/her report on your condition. If your primary treating physician does not give you the report within 20 days of your request, the employer can transfer your care into the MPN and you will be required to use an MPN physician.

You will need to give a copy of the report to your employer if you wish to postpone the transfer of your care. If you or your employer disagrees with your doctor's report on your condition, you or your employer can dispute it. See the complete Transfer of Care policy for more details on the dispute resolution process.

For a copy of the Transfer of Care policy, in English or Spanish, ask your MPN Contact.

- **What if I am being treated by a MPN doctor who decides to leave the MPN?**

Your employer or insurer has a written "*Continuity of Care*" policy that will determine whether you can temporarily continue treatment for an existing work injury with your doctor if your doctor is no longer participating in the MPN.

If your employer decides that you do not qualify to continue your care with the non-MPN provider, you and your primary treating physician must receive a letter notifying you of this decision.

If you meet certain conditions, you may qualify to continue treating with this doctor for up to a year before you must choose a MPN physician. These conditions are set forth in the "***Can I Continue Being Treated By My Doctor?***" box above.

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You can disagree with your employer's decision to deny you Continuity of Care with the terminated MPN provider. If you want to continue treating with the terminated doctor, ask your primary treating physician for a medical report on whether you have one of the four conditions stated in the box above to see if you qualify to continue treating with your current doctor temporarily.

Your primary treating physician has 20 days from the date of your request to give you a copy of his/her medical report on your condition. If your primary treating physician does not give you the report within 20 days of your request, your employer's decision to deny you Continuity of Care with your doctor who is no longer participating in the MPN will apply, and you will be required to choose a MPN physician.

You will need to give a copy of the report to your employer if you wish to postpone the selection of another MPN doctor for your continued treatment. If you or your employer disagrees with your doctor's report on your condition, you or your employer can dispute it. See the complete Continuity of Care policy for more details on the dispute resolution process.

For a copy of the Continuity of Care policy, in English or Spanish, ask your MPN Contact.

- **What if I have questions or need help?**

- **MPN Contact:** You may always contact the MPN Contact if you have questions about the use of the MPN and to address any complaints regarding the MPN.
- **Medical Access Assistants:** You can contact the Medical Access Assistant if you need help finding MPN physicians and scheduling and confirming appointments.
- **Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC):** If you have concerns, complaints or questions regarding the MPN, the notification process, or your medical treatment after a work-related injury or illness, you can call the DWC's Information and Assistance office at 1-800-736-7401. You can also go to the DWC's website at [www.dir.ca.gov/dwc](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc) and click on "medical provider networks" for more information about MPNs.
- **Independent Medical Review:** If you have questions about the MPN Independent Medical Review process contact the Division of Workers' Compensation's Medical Unit at:

DWC Medical Unit  
P.O. Box 71010  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 286-3700 or (800) 794-6900

**Keep this information in case you have a work-related injury or illness.**