

N E W S L I N E

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DWC Posts Proposed Guidelines for Occupational/Work-Related Asthma, Interstitial Lung Disease to Online Forum

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) will be updating the clinical topic medical treatment guidelines of the Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule (MTUS) set forth in section 9792.23 *et seq.* The DWC begins this process by posting two new additional guidelines, the proposed Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease Guideline and Occupational/Work Related Asthma Guideline, to its online [forum](#). Members of the public may review and comment on the proposals until October 26, 2015.

"The MTUS updates help to ensure that medical treatment in the California workers' compensation system is based on the newest and best evidence," said DIR Director Christine Baker. DWC is a division of DIR.

Once the online forums have been completed for each specific clinical topic, the DWC will combine all of the proposed regulatory updates and additions to section 9792.23 *et seq.* into one rulemaking package.

"The MTUS chapters on Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease and Occupational Asthma provide an important framework for evidence-based treatment of workers with potentially debilitating diseases," added DWC Executive Medical Director Dr. Rupali Das. "We are actively updating all our medical treatment guidelines to incorporate the current scientific and medical knowledge for many other work-related conditions."

The proposed guidelines incorporate by reference the June 6, 2015 version of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's "Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease Guideline" and "Occupational/Work Related Asthma Guideline" which the DWC has adopted with permission from the publisher.

The MTUS Occupational/Work Related Asthma Guideline and the MTUS Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease Guideline are set forth in proposed new regulatory sections

9792.23.10 and 9792.23.11 respectively of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations and can be found in DWC's [website](#).

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