

N E W S L I N E

Newsline No.: 2016-33

Date: March 30, 2016

DWC Releases Fourth Edition of the *Physician's Guide to Medical Practice in the California Workers' Compensation System*

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) is pleased to announce the release of the [fourth edition](#) of the *Physician's Guide to Medical Practice in the California Workers' Compensation System*. This comprehensive guide helps physicians and other health care providers dispense optimal care to injured workers.

"The physician's guide was last revised in 2001, and much has happened in the last 15 years," said DWC Acting Administrative Director George Parisotto. "The guide provides up-to-date information that will help practitioners apply the reforms set forth in SB 863."

"Physician understanding of the workers' compensation system is critical to helping deliver appropriate care to injured workers," said DWC Acting Executive Medical Director Dr. Raymond Meister.

The manual contains 16 chapters, revising material from the third edition and providing new chapters on the following subjects:

- Parties to the System
- Benefits and Payments to Employees
- Reports and Timelines in the System
- Evidence-Based Medicine and the MTUS
- Utilization Review and IMR
- Physician Payment and the OMFS

The *Physician's Guide* is intended as an educational and reference tool to supplement the reader's professional experience. While intended primarily for treating providers, others in the workers' compensation community may also find the information helpful, particularly Qualified Medical Evaluators (QMEs) and those preparing for the QME certification exam.

The physician's guide is posted on the DWC [website](#).

###



The [California Department of Industrial Relations](#), established in 1927, protects and improves the health, safety, and economic well-being of over 18 million wage earners, and helps their employers comply with state labor laws. DIR is housed within the [Labor & Workforce Development Agency](#). Non-media inquiries can contact DIR's Communications Call Center at 1-844-LABOR-DIR (1-844-522-6734) for help in locating the appropriate [division or program](#) in our department.