

**TITLE 8. INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIVISION 1. DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
CHAPTER 4.5. DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION
SUBCHAPTER 1. ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR -- ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
ARTICLE 5.5.2. MEDICAL TREATMENT UTILIZATION SCHEDULE**

§ 9792.20. Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule - Definitions.

As used in this Article:

(a) "ACOEM" means the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines published by the Reed Group containing evidenced-based medical treatment guidelines for conditions commonly associated with the workplace. ACOEM guidelines may be obtained from the Reed Group (<http://go.reedgroup.com/mtus>).

(b) – (l) [No change]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.22. General Approaches.

(a) The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference into the MTUS specific guidelines set forth below from the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines (ACOEM Practice Guidelines) for the following chapters.

(1) Prevention (ACOEM Practice Guidelines, 2nd Edition (2004), Chapter 1).

(2) General Approach to Initial Assessment and Documentation (ACOEM Practice Guidelines, 2nd Edition (2004), Chapter 2).

(3) Initial Approaches to Treatment (ACOEM June 30, 2017).

(4) Cornerstones of Disability Prevention and Management (ACOEM Practice Guidelines, 2nd Edition (2004), Chapter 5).

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23. Clinical Topics.

(a) The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference a series of medical treatment guidelines into the MTUS commencing with section 9792.23.1.

(b) For all conditions or injuries not addressed in the MTUS treatment guidelines, the authorized treatment and diagnostic services shall be in accordance with other scientifically and evidence-based medical treatment guidelines that are nationally recognized by the medical community pursuant to section 9792.21(d)(1).

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.1. Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders Guideline (ACOEM May 27, 2016) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.2. Shoulder Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Shoulder Disorders Guideline (ACOEM August 1, 2016) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.3. Elbow Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Elbow Disorders Guideline (ACOEM 2013) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.4. Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders Guideline (ACOEM June 30, 2016) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.5. Low Back Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Low Back Disorders Guideline (ACOEM February 24, 2016) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.6. Knee Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Knee Disorders Guideline (ACOEM October 28, 2015) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.7. Ankle and Foot Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Ankle and Foot Disorders Guideline (ACOEM September 2015) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.8. Stress Related Conditions.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Chronic Pain Guideline (ACOEM May 2017) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines for psychological treatment and evaluation related to chronic pain. If the injured worker's psychological condition, treatment, or evaluation is unrelated to chronic pain, then medical care and evaluation shall be in accordance with other medical treatment guidelines or peer-reviewed studies found by applying the Medical Evidence Search Sequence set forth in section 9792.21.1.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.9. Eye Disorders Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Eye Disorders Guideline (ACOEM April 1, 2017) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.10. Hip and Groin Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Hip and Groin Guideline (ACOEM May 1, 2011) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code. Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.11. Occupational/Work-Related Asthma Medical Treatment Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Occupational/Work-Related Asthma Medical Treatment Guideline (ACOEM January 4, 2016) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code. Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.23.12. Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease Guideline.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease Guideline (ACOEM January 4, 2016) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code. Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.24.1. Acupuncture Medical Treatment Guidelines.

Guidance for acupuncture treatment and evaluation are contained in the applicable Clinical Topics guidelines, and/or Chronic Pain Guideline, and/or Opioid Guideline.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code. Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.24.2. Chronic Pain Guidelines.

The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Chronic Pain Guideline (ACOEM May 15, 2017) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines for the treatment and evaluation of patients who have chronic pain as defined in section 9792.20. This guideline addresses a general approach to patients with chronic pain and the psychological and behavioral aspects of chronic pain. This guideline also addresses a few specific chronic pain disorders (i.e., complex regional pain syndrome, fibromyalgia, neuropathic pain). Guidance for treatment and evaluation of chronic pain disorders not specifically addressed in this guideline are contained in the Clinical Topics guidelines and/or Opioid Guideline.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.24.3. Postoperative Rehabilitation Guidelines.

Guidance for postoperative rehabilitation treatment and evaluation are contained in the Clinical Topics guidelines, and/or Chronic Pain Guideline and/or Opioid Guideline. The post-operative rehabilitation treatment recommendations apply to visits during the post-operative period only and to surgeries as defined in those guidelines. At the conclusion of the post-operative period, treatment reverts back to the applicable 24-visit limitation for chiropractic, occupational therapy, and physical therapy pursuant to Labor Code section 4604.5(c)(1).

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.

§ 9792.24.4. Opioids Guidelines.

(a) The Administrative Director adopts and incorporates by reference the Opioids Guideline (ACOEM April 20, 2017) into the MTUS from the ACOEM Practice Guidelines.

(b) The Opioids Guideline describes the appropriate use of opioid medications as part of an overall multidisciplinary treatment regimen for acute, sub-acute, post-operative, and chronic non-cancer pain. This guideline applies when the use of opioid medications is being considered as part of the treatment regimen.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 133, 4603.5, 5307.3 and 5307.27, Labor Code.
Reference: Sections 77.5, 4600, 4604.5 and 5307.27, Labor Code.