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DWCNewsline

Division of Workers' Compensation
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Division of Workers' Compensation posts proposed pharmacy benefit network regulations on DWC forum for pre-rulemaking public comment

The Division of Workers' Compensation has posted an online forum for members of the public to review and comment on draft proposed pharmacy benefit network regulations. The regulations are formally called the contracted provision of medicines because they cover more than pharmaceuticals. These draft regulations represent the division's next step in its 12-point plan to monitor and help control medical costs in California's workers' compensation system. The plan includes regulations recently enacted, regulations underway, and a set of proposals to be implemented in 2010.

The regulations will be contained in Title 8, California Code of Regulations, article 3.7, sections 9769.1 *et seq.*, and article 8.5, sections 9880 and 9881, and include:

- Section 9769.1, which establishes definitions
- Section 9769.2, which requires plans to comply with standards of the administrative director
- Section 9769.2, which establishes standards of access
- Section 9769.3, which provides for a notice to employees
- Amendment to section 9880 to amend the notice provided to new employees
- Amendment to section 9881 to amend the notice required to be posted
- Amendment to the form DWC-1, to include a mention of how to obtain drugs and supplies.

The forum can be found at: http://www.dir.ca.gov/Wcjudicial.htm. Click on "current forums" at the top of the page.

Comments will be accepted at the forum until 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 17, 2010. Please feel free to participate in this important process.

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