

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION
MEDICAL UNIT
1515 Clay Street, 18th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Tel. (510) 286-3700 FAX (510) 286-0686

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 71010
Oakland, CA 94612-7110



To: Health Care Provider
Re: Participation in Workers' Compensation Medical Provider Networks

Thank you for your interest in participating in a workers' compensation Medical Provider Network ("MPN") allowed under Labor Code section 4616. While DWC reviews and approves applications for MPNs, DWC is not involved in creating the MPNs or in deciding what providers will be included in these networks. The Medical Provider Network applicants have exclusive authority to determine which providers to include in its MPN.

Under Labor Code section 4616, self-insured employers, workers' compensation insurers or entities providing physician network services may create a Medical Provider Network to deliver medical care to covered injured employees in California. If an employer uses a Medical Provider Network, covered injured employees will be required to receive all of their medical treatment and services through that network (with some exceptions) for the life of the claim.

In order to become a provider in an established MPN, you will need to contact the network directly to offer your services. Most provider networks have a website with contact information and a provider nomination process, which establishes what information they want from prospective providers. Either you, or in some case employers or payers that you have worked with, may submit a nomination on your behalf. This process varies from network to network.

When considering "joining" a Medical Provider Network you should make sure you are familiar with the rules concerning these networks. The MPN regulations are in Title 8, California Code of Regulations, sections 9767.1 *et seq.* and may be found on the medical provider network regulations page of the DWC website at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DWC>. All participating providers in an MPN must contractually agree to treat workers' compensation injuries in California.

To assist you in contacting entities that are forming MPNs we are providing the following information:

- Workers' Compensation insurance carriers licensed by the state of California are listed at the California Dept of Insurance website : <http://www.insurance.ca.gov>
- Approved MPNs (which identify some of the networks already in use as MPNs) can be found at the Division of Workers' Compensation website, www.dir.ca.gov/dwc, and go to the section on Medical Provider Networks.

Thank you again for your interest.

Sincerely,

Raymond Meister, M.D., M.P.H.

Executive Medical Director