



May 2009

THE IC *Medi Scene*

Ohio | Industrial Commission

Keeping You Up-to-Date with the Industrial Commission

The Industrial Commission Permanent Total Examination is a "No Code!"

No, this doesn't mean "Do not resuscitate."

What this means is that ICD-9 codes should not be used, referred to, or mentioned in your IC PTD examination report.

The reasons for this are as follows. First, the purpose of the examination is not to establish a diagnosis. By the time of application for PTD, the allowed conditions are already determined and, in a legal sense, are not matters of dispute. Secondly, a written description of a condition might generally apply to more than one code, and visa versa (think "lumbago" vs. "low back pain"). Finally, codes change over time, as do our descriptions of ailments. The code given for a psychiatric condition in 1984, for instance, may be much different than the code we use today.

In short, it can be a source of great confusion at hearing if you attempt to apply a diagnostic code to a condition in your IC PTD examination report. It is essential that each allowed condition in the claim be listed in your report exactly as it appears on the Statement of Facts- with "no codes."

What's New: Medical Manual Revision

The March issue of MediScene introduced changes in our referral letters. This month we are proud to introduce our new and improved Medical Examination Manual.

As many of you may know, the Industrial Commission Medical Examination Manual is an instructional reference for our specialist examiners. It includes general considerations for providers performing IC Permanent Total Disability Examinations as well as specialty specific instructions and sample reports.

Changes have been made to the body of the manual as well as the sample reports to reflect changes in the referral letters. There are changes that reflect change in statute

since the last revision, as well as changes in policy. We corrected typographical errors and improved language where necessary.

We provided contemporary dates and medication references.

The revised manual can be found on line at ohioic.com. Click "resources," then "medical manual." We are happy to provide a hard copy at your request.

Please take time to review the

general considerations, your specialty specific instructions, and the sample reports in the revised manual prior to your next examination. Your continued efforts to provide high quality, medically competent and legally sufficient reports are much appreciated!



Did you Know?

Injured workers may have a relative present at their examination if so desired. Legal representatives may not be present at examinations.

Continuing education questions MediScene May 09

1. Mental and Behavioral Health specialists should
 - A. Formulate a diagnosis for the injured worker during the course of the Permanent Total Disability examination.
 - B. Assign an ICD-9 diagnostic code and place it in the appropriate axis.
 - C. Recommend necessary and appropriate treatment for the injured worker.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
2. Injured workers may have the following individuals with them during an examination for Permanent Total Disability
 - A. A friend.
 - B. A relative.
 - C. Their minister or other spiritual leader.
 - D. Their attorney.
 - E. All of the above.
3. 2009 revisions to the Industrial Commission Medical Examination Manual
 - A. Include changes in statute.
 - B. Can be found at ohioic.com.
 - C. Reflect policy changes.
 - D. All of the above.
4. The Industrial Commission Medical Examination Manual contains
 - A. Billing information.
 - B. Legal definitions.
 - C. Specialty specific instructions and sample reports.
 - D. All of the above.

(Answers: 1. E.; 2. B.; 3. D.; 4. D.)