

**MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
MEDICAL FEE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
THOMPSON CENTER – 100 WEST RANDOLPH STREET, ROOM 9-031
CHICAGO, IL 60601
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2015**

Present at the meeting:

Chairman Joann Fratianni
Diana Alvarez
Bill McAndrew
Barb Molloy
Dr. Michael Vender

Participating via telephone:

Glen Boyle, IWCC Project Manager
Dr. Avi Bernstein
Jason Keller
David Menchetti
Kim Moreland

Not present at the meeting:

Dianne McGuire

IWCC staff present:

Ron Rascia, General Counsel
Brendan O'Rourke, Manager of Research and Education
Annette Roti, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Fratianni called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. She noted the absence of a quorum. Therefore, there would be no vote to approve the prior minutes or to take official action on any business. Mr. McAndrew mentioned that he recently participated in a telephone conference with representatives from the State Medical Society and the insurance industry about the upcoming adoption of the ICD-10 codes. Although Illinois does not mandate that property and casualty insurers adopt these codes, he reported that many large carriers are in fact ready to make this transition. He recommended that the provider community consider this issue in terms of whether the carriers that they deal with are willing to adopt these codes.

Dr. Vendor asked what the Commission's position is on converting to the ICD-10 codes. General Counsel Rascia responded that the Commission is still analyzing this issue. Mr. Boyle offered his view that the Commission should announce a position that either the ICD-9 codes or the ICD-10 codes are consistent with the fee schedule, and he stated that most carriers will switch to the new codes because of their involvement with government payers. Mr. Menchetti suggested that perhaps the Board advise the Commission to issue a statement that the use of the old codes is not a basis to deny an otherwise reasonable bill.

Chairman Fratianni suggested that a subcommittee be created to look into the effects of the change to the new codes and report back to the Board. Mr. Menchetti, Mr. McAndrew, and Ms. Molloy offered to work on this task.

Mr. Boyle reported that he is working on updating the fee schedule for 2016 and that the results will be posted by December.

Dr. Vendor asked about the status of the fraud unit at the Commission, and Chairman Fratianni and Mr. McAndrew clarified that this unit exists as part of the Department of Insurance and is headed by Bill Blumthal.

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Fratianni entertained a motion to adjourn. Dr. Vendor so moved, Ms. Alvarez seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.