



May 05, 2017

Dale L. Schultz, Chairman
Industrial Commission of Arizona
800 W. Washington Street

Dear Mr. Shultz,

I have been working as a case manager in Arizona since 2003 and have been with Genex Services for the past 7 years. Through the years, I have seen many changes in the industry and have been able to identify excellent work comp providers versus those that do not render superior quality of care. The recovery time frames and costs are significantly lower with providers who have good outcomes and understand the issues that complicate industrial claims.

My philosophy is, and always has been, do for my injured workers as I would do for myself or my family. I strive to use only the most reputable physicians and best ancillary services including physical therapy. I would never send them somewhere I wouldn't go myself. In doing so, I am best serving my injured worker and the industrial carrier by controlling costs and ensuring the most optimal recovery outcomes.

I understand the proposed 2017-2018 Physician Fee Schedule will slash the reimbursement rate to physicians for surgical services for our worker's compensation Claimants. This will result in physicians with documented excellent outcomes leaving the work comp arena. In turn, we will be forced to use other providers which will result in a rise in claim associated costs due to poor surgical outcomes, unnecessary surgery, excessive use of narcotics, overutilization of ancillary services, and prolonged absence from work. Many of these physicians do not perform impairment ratings therefore the claim costs will also rise due to the increased need for Independent Medical Examinations.

Please reconsider the proposed Physician Fee Schedule. Not only will this be a disservice to all physicians who treat work comp patients, but to our injured workers and work comp community.

I appreciate your consideration.

Respectfully,

Debbi Gillespie RN, CCM
Catastrophic and Medical Case Manager
Genex Services, LLC

Cc: ICA Fax

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DIRECTOR