

Renee Englen

From: Caroline Taylor <taylor828@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:24 PM
To: MRO
Subject: Worker's compensation Contracts

As a physical therapy provider in California, I want to encourage you to support providers by not allowing 3rd party review companies to take millions of dollars away from patient care by acting as non-medical middlemen. They do nothing to enhance the value of patient management and take a large percentage of the fees that were meant to go to providers. Their review process inadequately evaluates the needs of each patient, arbitrarily reducing access to care. In California, these networks have made it impossible for high quality clinics to continue to see Worker's Compensation patients. Poor quality PT is provided by less skilled practitioners (aides and assistants) who do not have the technical skills to effectively evaluate and progress patient care, likely prolonging the course of recovery for injured workers. This practice diverts massive taxpayer dollars away from Arizona's injured workers. Injured workers in Arizona (and CA) deserve the best treatment possible. Payment of at least 90% of the fee schedule will be superior to that which can be provided when middlemen demand that PTs accept 50-60% discounts OR risk losing their referrals. Ideally, practitioners should be paid 100% of the allowable fee schedule.

Thank you for your consideration of this serious issue.
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