

Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program



Medical Benefits Coverage

The EEOICPA

- Provides lump-sum compensation and medical benefits to eligible employees who became ill as a result of working in the nuclear weapons industry
 - Includes individuals linked to uranium mining
- Relatively complex decision making process— but DOL helps the claimant through this process
- Lump sum payments
 - Maximum payout - \$400K
- Reimbursement for medical services

Medical Benefits

- Broad coverage for medical treatment costs linked to accepted work-related illness(es)
 - Routine medical care - including office visits, diagnostic services (lab and radiology services)
 - Prescription medications
 - Other services including inpatient care, outpatient services (chemotherapy, radiation treatment, etc.),
- Medical travel expenses
 - Transportation, lodging, meals, and misc expenses (tolls, parking, baggage, etc.)
- Durable Medical Equipment
 - Wheel chairs, hospital beds, oxygen and supplies

Medical Benefits (continued)

- Modification to vehicle or home
- Extended care facility
 - Residential nursing home, assisted living facility, etc
- Hospice
- Home Health Care (HHC)
 - Skilled nursing-LPN, RN
 - Personal assistance-HHA, PCA

Provider Selection

- Claimants are ultimately responsible for selection or retention of providers
 - DOL does NOT endorse or sponsor any specific medical providers
- A claimant may change providers at any time

Basic Billing Process

- **Provider is billing for services**
 - Provider must be enrolled
 - Online process or paper submission
 - Basic licensing credentials
 - Accept electronic payments
- **Bills submitted electronically or via paper**
 - Bills submitted on OWCP-04, OWCP-1500 (home health care services must be billed on OWCP-1500)
 - Only services linked to accepted illness(es) are paid. (includes common and customary service for a given illness)
 - Charges paid based on OWCP fee schedule
 - Some services may require DOL pre-approval (home health care, certain DME, transplants, etc.)

Basic Billing Process (continued)

- Claimant is billing for services
 - Selecting the right form
 - OWCP-915 for medical and prescription expenses
 - OWCP-957 for travel expenses
 - Submitting a OWCP-915
 - Include description of services. This should be as detailed as possible to ensure you are reimbursed correctly (statement of services/bill from provider is preferred)
 - Prescription Expenses – include 11 digit NDC, day supply and quantity (non-prescription /OTC medications may not have an NDC, must be related to work-related illness(es))
 - Include proof of payment
 - Submitting a OWCP-957
 - Include receipts for airfare, lodging, rental car, gas (if rental approved), and all expenses exceeding \$75

Bill Submission

- Provider and claimant submitted bills should be mailed to the address below:

DEEOIC

P.O. Box 8304

London, KY

40742-8304

Requests for Home Health Care

- Require pre-authorization by DOL
 - Emergency requests handled separately-initiated by calling the Bill Processing Agent and speaking to the Triage Nurse
- Submit letter of medical necessity or Plan of Care from treating physician
 - Level of care required i.e., RN, LPN, HHA/PCA or other
 - Frequency of care required i.e., number of hours per day, per week for each type or level of care
 - Time period for which you will require in-home care
 - Medical evidence from non-treating physician is of reduced probative value

HHC Request Review

- Evaluation conducted by Claims Examiner
- Medical necessity –
 - Prescribed by treating physician
 - Linked to accepted illness(es)
 - Evidence of physical examination performed within the last 60 days
 - Medical justification must demonstrate the need for services
- Insufficient evidence to document medical need triggers development
 - Physician asked to clarify medical need for in-home care

Authorization of Care

- Written notice mailed to claimant & provider
 - Describes authorized service level/duration
 - Granted in 6 month increments or less depending on medical evidence
 - Billing instruction included
- Service charges payable ONLY during authorized dates
 - DOL may back-date authorization in certain situations
 - Bills must be accompanied by service/progress notes
 - Service/Progress notes must include a written narrative of the care being provided for each day the provider is in the home

Home Health Care Renewals

- Request for re-authorization submitted 30-60 days BEFORE expiration of current care
 - Updated Plan of Care from provider
 - Accompanied by updated medical rationale for continued in-home care given recent physical exam
 - Temporary extension may be granted to allow for development

Physician Assessment

- Assessment of the patient, or time spent preparing report will be paid
- Provider may bill for report preparation, in addition to billing for customary medical services (e.g., office visits, diagnostic testing, laboratory services, etc.) as long as they relate to an accepted condition(s)

Personally Identifiable Information

- *Personally Identifiable Information (PII)* is any information that permits the identity of an individual to be directly or indirectly inferred including information which is linked or *linkable* to that individual regardless of whether the individual is a US citizen, lawful permanent resident, visitor to the US, etc.
- Name
- Address
- Phone Number

Privacy Act of 1974

- Establish rules of conduct for collecting, maintaining, distributing, and disposing of personal information
- Provides individuals the right to access and correct records about themselves
- Ensure that we collect only data that is authorized by law & that we share information only with those who have a need-to-know

Claimant Resources

- **Resource Centers – 11 locations**
 - **California (866) 606-6302**
 - **Denver (866) 540-4977**
 - **Espanola (866) 272-3622**
 - **Hanford Toll Free: (888) 654-0014**
 - **Idaho Toll Free: (800) 861-8608**
 - **Las Vegas Toll Free: (866) 697-0841**
 - **New York Toll Free: (800) 941-3943**
 - **Oak Ridge (866) 481-0411**
 - **Paducah (866) 534-0599**
 - **Portsmouth (866) 363-6993**
 - **Savannah River Toll Free: (866) 666-4606**

Claimant Resources (continued)

- **District Offices – 4 locations**
 - **Cleveland District Office (888) 859-7211**
 - **Denver District Office (888) 805-3389**
 - **Jacksonville District Office (877) 336-4272**
 - **Seattle District Office (888) 805-3401**

Claimant Resources (continued)

- **ACS Web Bill Processing Portal:**
 - <http://owcp.dol.acs-inc.com/portal/main.do>
 - (866) 272-2682
- **DEEOIC web site**
 - <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/energy/>
 - **General program information**
 - **Forms**
 - **Sample decisions**

QUESTIONS?