

## **BWC Takes Action to Improve Medical Care for Injured Workers**

*Rule changes impact certification and reimbursement processes*

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) has taken steps to increase the availability and quality of care to Ohio workers injured on the job. Health-care providers must pay special attention to these rules that went into effect with the New Year as they impact BWC's certification and reimbursement processes.

The rules add a number of health-care professionals to those that can be certified to treat injured workers. These include adult day care facilities, anesthesiologist assistants, independent diagnostic testing facilities, and sleep laboratories. The additions are the result of BWC's engagement of healthcare professionals, who recommended expanding injured workers' access to quality providers, as well as providers' access to the system.

The rules also:

- Strengthen certification requirements to bring them more in line with nationally recognized standards.
- Clarify decertification protocols for providers with repeated violations of workers' compensation rules or statutes.

"We appreciate the partnership of our provider network as we have taken a closer look at the services we provide to Ohio employers and injured workers," said BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer.

"Working together, we are challenging ourselves to meet a higher standard that leaves no room to compromise patient care."

Please review and print these rules from the [Rules and Statutes section](#) of our website. Please contact the Provider Relations Contact Center at [feedback.medical@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:feedback.medical@bwc.state.oh.us) or 1-800OHIOBWC (option 0,3,0) with questions.