

PAF Guidelines Project Newsletter

May 14, 2007

News on the development of new Pre-approved Framework (PAF) Guidelines for treatment of auto accident injuries under the Statutory Accident Benefits Schedule.

Inside This Issue

- Forms
- Implementation and Training

The PAF Guidelines Project Newsletter is a quarterly source of information for auto insurance stakeholders.

The Newsletter provides project updates and offers stakeholders the opportunity to submit their feedback throughout the course of the PAF Guidelines Project.

The Newsletter is produced and distributed by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO).

If you would prefer to receive this Newsletter electronically, please forward your request to: PAFproject@fSCO.gov.on.ca.

The Revised PAF Guidelines

Drafts of the revised WAD I and WAD II PAF Guidelines were posted on FSCO's website in February 2007.

In March 2007, a final round of stakeholder meetings was held to discuss the draft Guidelines. These meetings were facilitated by the project consultants from Corporate Health Group (CHG). Over fifty stakeholders participated in the meetings which were held via teleconference and in person. Stakeholder groups involved in the meetings represented health care providers, insurers, consumers and the legal community.

The feedback covered many issues, including: the appropriate time to initiate treatment under a PAF Guideline, which injured persons could most benefit from treatment under a PAF Guideline, when should insurers be billed for services provided, how much information about treatment modalities should be provided on forms and at what point in the treatment, and the expected interventions or services in the post-PAF phase.

Final PAF Guidelines are expected to be released in late Spring 2007 with a Fall implementation date.

A variety of training materials will be developed for use by all stakeholders.

We welcome your feedback or questions. Contact us about anything regarding the PAF Guideline Project at PAFproject @fSCO.gov.on.ca

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Project Advisory Committee

The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) continues to meet regularly. Recently, PAC members have been discussing the Guidelines' contents and applicability, evaluation mechanisms and measures, as well as invoicing issues. The PAC has also been talking about changes to forms and training needs.

Forms

CHG is working with members of the PAC to update the OCF-24 form (the Pre-approved Framework Discharge and Status Report) so that it will reflect the revised PAF Guidelines. Currently, the form is completed by health care providers and used by insurers to learn which treatments were provided to an injured person and the status of the person's impairment at the end of PAF treatment.

Implementation and Training

CHG consultants are working with PAC members and FSCO to consider suitable methods to address their needs (presentations, web posting, etc.) including appropriate timing. CGH consultants will develop training material covering the contents of the revised PAF Guidelines which can be used or adapted by all interested groups.

What to Watch For

- Final version of the revised PAF Guidelines
- Information on training
- Summer 2007 Newsletter

