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DWCNewsline

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Division of Workers' Compensation issues 15-day notice of revisions to proposed QME regulations

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) has modified its proposed qualified medical evaluator (QME) regulations and posted a 15-day notice of revisions on its Web site. Members of the public may comment on the revisions until 5 p.m. on July 10, 2008.

The proposed revisions to the draft regulations include the following modifications:

- A proposed definition of “agreed panel QME,” has been added. An agreed panel QME is defined as a QME the parties agree upon and select from the panel QME list. This physician will be paid at the AME rate
- The proposed definition for a “primary practice location” has been removed
- The process to obtain additional QME panels in different specialties has been clarified
- Proposed section 32.7 regarding the availability of a QME for panel assignment has been removed
- A mechanism for serving medical legal evaluations for injuries to the psyche in compliance with Health and Safety Code section 123115(b) has been proposed
- Disability report writing courses must require enrollees to submit a draft medical/legal report that will be critiqued by the course provider.

Further information and the modified proposals can be found at http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/DWCPropRegs/qme_regulations/qme_regulations.htm.

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