



Oklahoma Workers Compensation Court

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UPDATED SPECIAL ADVISORY NOTICE REGARDING USE OF OFFICIAL DISABILITY GUIDELINES (ODG) FOR CARE OF INJURED WORKERS

To: All Interested Parties
From: Court Administrator Michael Clingman
Date: March 4, 2013

This is a special advisory notice concerning use of the *Official Disabilities Guidelines (ODG)* for care of injured workers. It supercedes all previously distributed notices regarding use of the ODG.

The Work Loss Data Institute's ***Official Disability Guidelines (ODG)*** was adopted as the standard for determining the scope and duration of medical treatment in workers' compensation effective March 1, 2012. 85 O.S., §326(G). For information about Work Loss Data Institute, visit www.worklossdata.com or contact Work Loss Data Institute at 1-800-488-5548. To order ODG, call 1-800-488-5548 or go to www.worklossdata.com/orderform_ok.htm. The ODG is not available for purchase from the Court.

The state Physician Advisory Committee was authorized by law to develop **Oklahoma Treatment Guidelines (OTG)** regarding prescription and dispensing of Schedule II drugs and regarding medical care not covered by the ODG or not recommended by ODG for injuries to the spine. 85 O.S., §326.

OTG for use of Schedule II Drugs (OTG-Drugs) were approved by the Workers' Compensation Court Administrator following adoption by the Physician Advisory Committee. The OTG-Drugs, became effective on April 2, 2012. Go to <http://www.owcc.state.ok.us/OTG-Drugs.pdf> to access these guidelines.

Proposed OTG for the Spine (OTG-Spine) were developed by the Physician Advisory Committee, endorsed by the Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation (85 O.S., §374), and adopted by the Workers' Compensation Court Administrator. Per 85 O.S., §373(B)(5), the proposed guidelines were then submitted to the Governor and Oklahoma Legislature for consideration. Unless disapproved, the OTG-Spine will become operative 30 days after adjournment of the 2013 legislative session. Notice of the operative date or disapproval of these OTG will be posted on the Workers' Compensation Court's web site at http://www.owcc.state.ok.us/whats_new.htm.

For a copy of the proposed guidelines, go to <http://www.owcc.state.ok.us/ProposedOTG-Spine.pdf>. For a document showing how the proposed guidelines differ from the Work Loss Data Institute's *Official Disability Guidelines*, go to http://www.owcc.state.ok.us/ProposedOTG-Spine_and_ODG.pdf.

Unless otherwise determined by a court of law, treatment guidelines for the spine that were adopted by the Physician Advisory Committee before August 26, 2011 remain in effect until the OTG-Spine become operative or if disapproved. Go to <http://www.owcc.state.ok.us/Guidelines.htm> to view these guidelines.