

WORKERS' COMP NETWORKS ARE UNIQUE AND INVALUABLE TO THE INJURED OR ILL WORKER

The goal of a Workers' Compensation Network is to return the injured or ill worker to pre-injury status as quickly as possible by providing access to specialized care in a timely manner, a key difference making them unique. Workers' Compensation Networks provide value in several ways:

- Achieve better outcomes with a faster return to pre-injury status¹
- Provide access to provider groups with a specialized focus and the expertise to address the injured or ill worker's needs
- Reduce obstacles when navigating the complex healthcare system
- Streamline management from first report of injury through claim resolution
- The practice of changing, directing or substituting pharmacy therapies/medications for financial incentives is prohibited in workers' compensation

THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION INDUSTRY HAS SEEN A SIGNIFICANT AND STEADY INCREASE IN THE USE OF MEDICAL PROVIDER NETWORKS, WITH 78% OF PAYMENTS GOING TO IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS IN 2016 COMPARED WITH 70% IN 2011.²

WHAT IS THE VALUE A WORKERS' COMP NETWORK BRINGS



INJURED OR ILL WORKER

- Access to the highest performing, credentialed physicians, specialists, physical therapists, chiropractors, home health providers, hospitals and clinics with expertise in treating specific workplace injuries or illnesses
- Streamlined care coordination and clear communication to achieve the best possible outcomes
- Regulatory safeguards ensure expedited access to care and scheduling within a designated time frame, according to some state rules and regulations
- Reduced burden of excess paperwork and administrative obstacles



EMPLOYER

- Premium discounts, lower claim costs and quicker recovery on average³
- Provides a credentialed provider network specific to workers' comp injuries or illness that are vetted using stringent guidelines and metrics
- Coordination of care that reduces fraud, waste and abuse
- Acts as a buffer and manages the provider appeals process



PROVIDER

- Provides an automatic referral source and publication in client directories and portals
- Makes it easier to receive the full contractual reimbursement directly from the payor in a timely manner while eliminating the expense of collecting co-pays or deductibles
- Creates new patient relationships and adds diversity to the patient base while reaching new segments of the population in the community
- Streamlines utilization review programs and scheduling services, while providing education and interaction on policies, procedures and best practices for getting the injured or ill worker back to pre-injury status

Workers' compensation claims have different goals, outcome measurements and governance structures compared to commercial health. These key differences must be considered during the development of any healthcare related policy to avoid harmful consequences to the injured or ill worker. We encourage you to continue the conversation with AAPAN to ensure future policy doesn't add complexity to an already highly regulated workers' compensation system. Contact AAPAN today at aapan.org or aseiler@aapan.org or more information.



1. https://www.ncci.com/Articles/Pages/II_AIS2018-Changing-Nature-CA-Medical-Provider-Networks.aspx;
https://www.nycirb.org/officialdocs/NYCIRB_2017_Medical_Payment_Study.pdf

2. <https://www.businessinsurance.com/article/20200406/NEWS08/912333889/In-network-workers-comp-providers-offer-lower-prices-Report-National-Council-on>

3. <https://www.ncci.com/Articles/Documents/Insights-CostImpactMedical.pdf>