

SEP 19 2007



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Consumer and Business Services

Workers' Compensation Division

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Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners
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Important changes for Oregon Naturopaths who treat Oregon Workers' Compensation Patients

Dear Sir or Madam.

In 2007, the Oregon Legislature made changes that will affect all naturopaths who treat patients with Oregon workers' compensation claims.

Starting Jan. 2, 2008, naturopaths will have to certify to the director of the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services that they have reviewed certain educational materials before they can treat patients with Oregon workers' compensation claims.

To obtain the required materials or to certify online, please visit the Workers' Compensation Division's Web site at <http://www.wcd.oregon.gov> and click on "Health Care Providers."

Providers without Internet access may contact Robert Salvo, publications specialist, (503) 947-7627, to obtain the required materials, available after Oct. 15, 2007.

If a naturopath who has not certified to the director treats a patient with an Oregon workers' compensation claim on or after Jan. 2, 2008, the insurer will not have to pay for the services provided.

After naturopaths certify to the director that they have read the required material, they may:

- Provide compensable medical services upon referral from the worker's attending physician;
- Act as an attending physician for up to 60 days or 18 visits, whichever comes first, from the worker's initial visit to any chiropractor, naturopath, podiatrist, or physician assistant on the initial claim; and
- Authorize time loss for up to 30 days from the date of the patient's first visit to any of these four provider types.

Since these changes may affect Oregon naturopaths, we ask that you please help us spread the word to Oregon's naturopathic community. We would appreciate if you could provide a direct link to the Oregon Workers' Compensation Division's Web site (<http://www.wcd.oregon.gov>) from your Web site.

John L. Shilts, Administrator
Workers' Compensation Division