

Workers' Compensation Attending Physician Status

Note: this chart does not apply to Managed Care Organizations

Provider Type	Attending physician status (primarily responsible for treatment of a patient)	Provide compensable medical services for initial injury or illness	Authorize payment of time loss (temporary disability) and release the patient to work	Establish impairment findings (permanent disability)	Provide compensable medical services for aggravation of injury or illness	Must review educational materials and certify with director of DCBS to provide services
<p>“Type A” attending physicians ¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Doctor (MD) • Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) • Oral and Maxillo-facial surgeon • Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<p>“Type B” attending physicians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiropractic physician • Naturopathic physician • Physician assistant 	Yes, for a total of 60 consecutive days or 18 visits, from the date of the initial visit on the initial claim with any Type B attending physician.	Yes, unless the total of 60 consecutive days or 18 visits from the date of the initial visit on the initial claim with any Type B attending physician has passed. Or, if authorized by an attending physician and under a treatment plan. (Note: Physician assistants are not required to have a written treatment plan)	Yes, 30 days from the date of the first visit with any type B attending physician on the initial claim, if within the specified 18 visit period.	No, unless the type B attending physician is a chiropractic physician.	No, unless authorized by attending physician and under a written treatment plan. (Note: Physician assistants are not required to have a written treatment plan)	Yes ²

¹ Note: The designations "Type A" and "Type B" refer to the statutory limitations provided under ORS 656.005(12) (a) and (b). Type A providers have unlimited authority; Type B providers have limitations

² See ORS 656.799

Provider Type	Attending physician status (primarily responsible for treatment of a patient)	Provide compensable medical services for initial injury or illness	Authorize payment of time loss (temporary disability) and release the patient to work	Establish impairment findings (permanent disability)	Provide compensable medical services for aggravation of injury or illness	Must review educational materials and certify with director of DCBS to provide services
Emergency room physicians	No, if the physician refers the patient to a primary care physician	Yes	An ER physician who is not authorized to serve as attending physician under ORS 656.005(12)(c) may authorize time loss for up to 14 days, including retroactive authorization.	No, if patient referred to a primary care physician	Yes	No
Nurse Practitioner	No	Yes, for 180 consecutive days from the date of the first visit to any authorized nurse practitioner on the initial claim. Or, if authorized by attending physician.	Yes, for 180 days from the date of the first visit to any authorized nurse practitioner on the initial claim.	No	No, unless authorized by the attending physician	Yes ³
Other health care providers (e.g. acupuncturists)	No	Yes, for 30 consecutive days or 12 visits from the date of the first visit on the initial claim with any "Other Health Care Providers." Thereafter, services must be provided under a treatment plan and authorized by the attending physician.	No	No	No, unless referred by the attending physician and under a written treatment plan	No

³ See ORS 656.795 and 656.797