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To: Texas Workers' Compensation System Participants

From: Graves Owen, M.D., Medical Advisor

Date: [December 15, 2023](#)

Subject: Input needed to develop the Medical Quality Review Calendar Year 2024 Annual Audit Plan

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) seeks input for the proposed Medical Quality Review Calendar Year 2024 Annual Audit Plan (Annual Plan). Specifically, we are looking for input on the proposal for the review category in the Annual Plan. The proposed plan is to evaluate the feasibility and impact of adopting a more current version of the *American Medical Association Guides to Impairment (AMA Guides)*.

The medical advisor is responsible for developing the Annual Plan, which is adopted by the commissioner of workers' compensation. Typically, the medical advisor evaluates Annual Plan categories using criteria listed in the Medical Quality Review Process (Process). Medical quality reviews help DWC monitor compliance with the Texas Labor Code and DWC rules. The recommended category is not to monitor compliance but to evaluate the impact that moving to a newer edition of the AMA Guides may have on the workers' compensation system.

The Annual Plan sets the priorities for the MQRP audits during the upcoming year. This includes the scope and selection criteria described in the Process. Information about the process and the proposed Annual Plan is on the TDI website at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/hcprovider/medadvisor.html.

Email your suggestions for this proposed Annual Plan to OMA@tdi.texas.gov by 5 p.m., Central time, on January 5, 2024.

If you have any questions, contact Traci Moten at 512-804-4805 or traci.moten@tdi.texas.gov.