



Texas Department of Insurance

Division of Workers' Compensation

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Memorandum

To: Workers' Compensation System Participants

From: Donald Patrick, M.D., J.D., Medical Advisor

Date: June 30, 2011

Subject: Designated Doctor Plan-Based Audit
(*April 2010 Designated Doctor Review, Follow-Up Audit*)

In April 2010, the Commissioner of Workers' Compensation (Commissioner) approved a Designated Doctor Review to examine the accuracy of certifications of maximum medical improvement and impairment ratings using the 4th edition of the *American Medical Association's Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*. At the conclusion of the review, the Medical Advisor recommended to the Commissioner a follow-up audit with certain designated doctors who were previously audited in April 2010 to monitor compliance with the Texas Labor Code and the Texas Administrative Code. A follow-up audit will be initiated using the same scope, methodology, selection criteria, and program area responsibilities as laid out in the Commissioner approved April 2010 Designated Doctor Review. A copy of the April 2010 Designated Doctor Review audit plan is posted on the TDI website at www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/hcprovider/medadvisor.html.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, contact Mary Landrum of TDI-DWC Health Care Quality Review at 512-804-4814 or Mary.Landrum@tdi.texas.gov.