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To: Texas Workers' Compensation System Participants

From: Kara Mace, General Counsel

Date: <u>August 3, 2023</u>

RE: Adopted amendments to the Medical Quality Review Panel rules

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) adopted amended Title 28, Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Sections 180.64, 180.66, 180.68, 180.72, and 180.76, concerning the Medical Quality Review Panel (MQRP), to:

- Conform with related rules and practices.
- Clarify the amount of notice to which a respondent is entitled before an informal settlement conference (ISC).
- Clarify that DWC may conduct an ISC remotely or in person.
- Make editorial changes for plain language and agency style.

DWC also repealed 28 TAC Section 180.78, concerning the effective date of the subchapter, because it was no longer necessary.

DWC made minor clarifying changes to the text in response a public comment.

The adoption order will be published in the August 18, 2023, issue of the *Texas Register* and available at www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml once published. The adoption order and the associated document that details the MQRP process are also on the TDI website at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/rules/2023rules.html.