Most people enjoy annual celebrations of various kinds. We often plan vacations coinciding with these events and even use holidays to describe our lives chronologically. Many businesses experience cyclical patterns as well and workers’ compensation is no exception. Every year, on February 1, a revised Medical Fee Schedule (MFS) is posted on the Division of Industrial Relations (DIR), Workers’ Compensation Section’s (WCS) website. Although we receive many requests for advanced copies of the new fee schedule, it is not released prior to February 1 (unless February 1 lands on a weekend). The primary reason for this is that NRS 616C.260 (2) requires that the MFS be revised by the corresponding annual change in the Consumer Price Index. These figures are not usually available until near the end of January. As soon as the figures are released, the Medical Unit staff warps into mathematical mode, calculating and recalculating every dollar amount to ensure the accuracy of each value listed in the MFS.

So what are the changes for 2017? The biggest change for most people is the new codes for evaluation and re-evaluations for both physical and occupational therapy. There are three new codes for each discipline and they are based on complexity of the evaluation (low, medium and high). This may sound familiar to physicians who have had to substantiate their billing codes in similar fashion for several years now. Fortunately, the Common Procedural Terminology (CPT) books published by the American Medical Association provides some guidance for users. One of the components is the therapist’s face to face time to complete the evaluation. Be aware that, although this may be the easiest way to objectively determine which code is appropriate, the complexity of problem solving, co-morbidities and planning is essential to accurate coding.

(Continued on page 3)
WCS and CapTech Consulting have scheduled training sessions for our regulated community prior to our planned launch in April 2017. Training sessions fill up quickly and have limited space so we encourage you to sign up for sessions as soon as possible. Due to the limited space we are only allowing 5 persons per Insurer/TPA in the southern office and 3 persons per insurer/TPA in the northern office to register for training sessions at this time. If additional space is available we will notify Insurers/TPAs the week prior to training of available space and additional individuals may then register. Registration is required to attend the training sessions. Future sessions will be held on an as needed basis.

**TRAINING SCHEDULE**

**NORTHERN NEVADA** - Wednesday, March 8, 2017  
**LOCATION:** 400 King Street Suite 400, Carson City, Nevada

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**SOUTHERN NEVADA** – Tuesday, March 14 – 16, 2017  
**LOCATION:** 1301 North Green Valley Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89074

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<td>12</td>
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**TO REGISTER:** Email the following information for each attendee to CARDS@business.nv.gov:

*Subject Line: CARDS Training*

First Name  
Last Name  
Company Name  
Phone Number  
Training Location  
Preferred Session(s)

**New IT System and Web Portal Will Affect All Insurers and TPAs**

If you haven't heard, WCS is currently undertaking modernization and transformation of its internal and external systems. The WCS has been working with CapTech Consulting to retire its current legacy systems with a new, built-from-the-ground-up system that will help achieve increased efficiencies, improved accuracy, and faster processing times. In addition to developing a custom case management system for WCS employees and an enhanced claims indexing repository, the project includes a robust web portal. The new web portal will be accessible to all workers’ compensation insurers and TPAs and will include the following features upon launch:

- Registration and user log in
- D-38 Claims Indexing web submission (individual claims)
- D-38 Claims Indexing flat file/FTP submission
- D-38 Request for Prior Claims History web submission
- TPA & Insurer Information Forms web submission
- Comparative industry data reports

Watch our CARDS webpage (http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/cards/) for new information related to CARDS. We will be posting information regarding claim reporting requirements, flat file layouts, training and other communications.

Questions may be directed to the WCS Project Manager, Stephanie Canter, at cards@business.nv.gov or (702) 486-9091.
The Workers’ Compensation Fraud Unit is responsible for investigating and prosecuting workers’ compensation fraud, whether it be by claimants, employers or health care providers. Below are tips for detecting claimant fraud:

**Employment Change**
A reported accident occurs just before or after a strike, job termination, layoff, end of a big project, or at the conclusion of seasonal work.

**No Witnesses**
No one sees the accident, and the employee's own description does not logically support the cause of injury.

**Suspicious Claims History**
A record of numerous, suspicious or litigated claims.

**Treatment is Refused**
The claimant refuses diagnostic procedures to confirm an injury.

**Late Reporting**
The employee delays reporting the claim.

**History of Changes**
The claimant has a history of frequently changing physicians, changing addresses and numerous past employment changes. Beware of an allegedly disabled claimant who is hard to get ahold of at home.

**Group Claims**
Watch for use of the same doctor and surgery. See the DIR/WCS website for details.

Katherine Godwin, RN
Medical Unit Supervisor

(Wilson Fee Schedule continued from page 1)

The WCS cannot set forth a definitive guide for health care providers and will not attempt to do so. However, we use the same resources health care providers use and make decisions based on the documentation provided. As usual, documentation is a key component of accurate billing and reimbursement.

The American Dental Association has a similar set of billing codes and they have also made revisions. Some of you may already be aware of this change as it initially occurred in 2016. Codes D9220 (deep sedation/general anesthesia, first 30 minutes) and D9221 (deep sedation/general anesthesia, each addition 15 minutes, or part thereof) were deleted and replaced by D9223 (deep sedation/general anesthesia, each 15 minute increment or part thereof). These codes are time dependent and anesthesia time is required on medical bills.

A few last words to remind all involved in medical billing and reimbursement of the importance of the following:

- An ICD-10 diagnosis(es) is required on all medical bills.
- Always use Nevada Specific Codes as directed on the Medical Fee Schedule.
- Contact Medical Unit staff at either WCS office to answer questions regarding related issues.
- Medical Billing training classes are regularly provided by DIR/WCS free of charge. See the DIR/WCS website for details.

**Training Sessions**

**SOUTHERN NEVADA**
1301 North Green Valley Parkway
Suite 200, Henderson, Nevada 89074
☎ aljohnson@business.nv.gov
☎ (702) 486-9019

**NORTHERN NEVADA**
400 West King Street
Suite 400, Carson City, Nevada 89703
☎ kawilliams@business.nv.gov
☎ (775) 684-7265

**C-4 Processing & Coverage Verification**
4/26/2017 at 9:30 am

**Medical Billing**
4/26/2017 at 1:30 pm

**Contact WCS**
Department of Business and Industry
Division of Industrial Relations
Workers’ Compensation Section

**SOUTHERN NEVADA**
☎ (702) 486-9080 / Fax: (702) 990-0364

**NORTHERN NEVADA**
☎ (775) 684-7270 / Fax: (775) 687-6305

http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/Home/
WCSHelp@business.nv.gov
The goal of this partnership is for the WCS to educate employers on mandatory provisions for workers’ compensation during the early stages of their business development which will help to avoid uninsured employer claims, costly employer sanctions, and possible criminal prosecution by the State Attorney General’s office.

Angelia Yllas
Employer Compliance Supervisor

Hails and Farewells and Promotions

Welcome to Valerie Wharton, who has joined us as an Administrative Assistant II (AAII) stationed at the receptionist desk in the Northern Nevada Workers’ Compensation Section of DIR. Prior to coming on board with the State of NV, she worked for years at the Douglas County School District as a Substitute Teacher’s Aide and (still) as a beekeeper with her husband of 26 years. Together they harvest their own locally produced raw honey. Valerie is also a proud veteran of the U.S. Air Force. She is also an animal lover and her favorite pastime is dancing.

Welcome to Alicia Coats, who has joined the Northern Nevada Workers’ Compensation Unit as an AAII. Previously she was with the Secretary of State’s Office, Customer Service Division as an AAII, later the Technology Division of the Secretary of State’s office as an Information Technology Technician I (ITT1) for 2 years. Most recently, she was an ITT II with Enterprise Information Technology Services where she helped monitor the mainframes and servers. Her hobbies are spending time with family and friends, enjoying the outdoors (fishing, off-roading, camping), making crafts, and cooking/baking.

A big hello and welcome to Guadalupe Manzo, the newest addition to the WCS team. She has just started her new position as Administrative Assistant II with the Workers’ Compensation Section in Southern Nevada. Lupe started her career with the state at the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services in 2013, where she served 4 years. She currently looks forward to gaining experience and working with the Research and Analysis team here at WCS. When she is not at work, Lupe enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

CARDS

IMPORTANT DATES!

March 2017

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**INSURER/TPA TRAINING CARSON CITY**

| 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  |

**INSURER/TPA TRAINING LAS VEGAS**

| 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |

**LAST DAY TO SUBMIT OLD FLAT FILE FORMAT OR D38 PAPER CLAIMS INDEXING**

| 27  |     | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |

**FIRST DAY NEW D38 AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE**

April 2017

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**CARDS LAUNCH DATE**

| 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  |

| 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  |