

ADVISORY NO. 86

TOPIC: FEE GUIDELINES REIMBURSEMENT

TWCC has issued Advisory 93-08 to emphasize the difference between reimbursement for services by the Medical Fee Guideline and services covered by the Hospital Fee Guideline.

Not only are the two guidelines effective on different dates, but the basic concept of reimbursement is different.

The Medical Fee Guideline is effective for all medical services on and after December 11, 1991, regardless of the date of injury. The Medical Fee Guideline pays the lesser of the provider's usual fees and charges or the fees and charges not to exceed those established in the Medical Fee Guideline.

The Hospital Fee Guideline, established by Rule 134.400, is effective for all acute case inpatient medical services rendered on or after September 1, 1992, to any employee injured on or after January 1, 1991. The Hospital Fee Guideline reimburses on a per diem based payment. There are 3 per diem rate categories. These are Medical at \$600 per day; Surgical at \$1,100 per day; and ICU/CCU at \$1,600 per day. Insurance Carriers are required to pay the per diem amount without regard to the amount of the hospital bill.

A copy of the Hospital Fee Guideline was supplied with Flahive, Ogden & Latson Advisory No. 56, dated September 18, 1992.