## **ADVISORY NO. 121**

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## **TOPIC: COMMUNICATIONS WITH TWCC DESIGNATED DOCTOR**

TWCC Advisory 94-02 directs all parties to a specific case, their representatives, employers and ombudsman to communicate with a designated doctor "only through appropriate commission personnel." This will usually be the DDO in the handling TWCC field office, but could be a BRC or CCH hearing officer.

The Advisory suggests the communication to be by phone with a memo for the record or an entry made in the Dispute Resolution Information System or by letter to the designated doctor. The contract with the designated doctor should be to clarify the doctor's opinion and assessment and/or to determine the use of the proper *AMA Guides*. The Advisory states TWCC will furnish copies of any written communication to the designated doctor to each party.

Parties to a case should not communicate directly with a designated doctor relating to the impairment rating or the doctor's opinion on MM I.