

ADVISORY NO. 203

**TOPIC: NOTIFICATION OF MMI/IMPAIRMENT RATING DISPUTES
(TWCC-32 FORM)**

Attached you will find TWCC Advisory 96-14. This announces a new form to be used by carriers to notify the Commission of disputes of maximum medical improvement or impairment rating.

While another new form is a troubling development, this may actually result in an advantage to carriers. We have often complained about the failure of the Commission to rapidly process these disputes. This has resulted in overpayments of TIBs and issues about recoupment. It is one of the most frustrating problems with the current system.

TWCC has responded by developing this form. Use of the form by carriers is mandatory. The advisory specifically states that the failure to use the form will not necessarily waive our right to dispute these benefits. However, it is clear that it will delay the processing of the designated doctor appointment and may certainly impair our opportunity to recoup the payment of benefits where the overpayment resulted from a delay in the appointment of the designated doctor.

We are quite enthusiastic about this form. We were consulted about it during its development and have encouraged the Commission to promulgate it. You may copy the attached form or may obtain copies direct from TWCC Forms Management Division (512) 440-3893.