

ADVISORY NO. 240

TOPIC: SPINAL SURGERY RULE CHANGE

The Texas Workers' Compensation Commission held a public meeting on May 28 1998, to consider adopting revisions to the spinal surgery second opinion rule (Rule 133.206). At this meeting, the Medical Review Division (MRD) recommended that the Commissioners adopt revisions that will improve the spinal surgery second opinion process.

MRD's recommendations were based on public comment, staff research and analysis, and process monitoring results. The Commissioners, by a majority vote, adopted the recommended revisions. These changes become effective July 1, 1998. These have been previously reported in *FOLIO*.

Attached is a summary of the specific rule changes. Please ready the documents carefully and inform all necessary staff members of these changes.

You can order a copy of the rule by calling the Publications Department of the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission at (512) 440-3650. Be sure to specify that you are ordering the revised rule that became effective July 1, 1998.

Remember to fax all spinal surgery related documents to Barbara Elzey at her dedicated fax number of (512) 479-5319.