

ADVISORY NO. 337
###

**TOPIC: IMPAIRMENT RATINGS FOR INTRA DISCAL ELECTRO
 THERMAL TREATMENT (IDET)**

Per the attached TWCC Advisory (2002-13), TWCC will now permit impairment ratings to be assigned based upon an IDET procedure. The TWCC Advisory states:

For the purpose of assigning an impairment rating under Rule 130.1, IDET shall be considered surgical treatment of the spinal disk(s) under the following conditions:

- (a) If the impairment rating is assigned using table 49 of the American Medical Association, "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment," Third Edition, Second Printing, dated February 1989, or
- (b) If the impairment rating is assigned using the range of motion model and table 75 of the American Medical Association, "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment," Fourth Edition, any printing.

The Injury Model, also called the diagnostic-related estimate (DRE) model, of impairment rating as described in the American Medical Association, "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment." Fourth Edition, any printing, does not consider surgery when assigning an impairment rating. Therefore impairment ratings assigned using the Injury Model/DRE are not affected by this Advisory.

TWCC also provides for a mechanism to review and revise previously assessed impairment ratings. The full TWCC Advisory is attached.