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BREAKING NEWS FOR DELAWARE HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

The Governor signed HB175 into law on June 27, 2013. This law included the recommendations of the Workers' Compensation Task Force, Department of Insurance, and Healthcare Advisory Panel.

There are significant proposed changes to the law. Full details can be viewed by clicking on this link:

<http://regulations.delaware.gov/register/july2013/index.shtml>

A public hearing is being held to address these recommended changes on July 29, 2013 at 4:00 pm at the Department of Labor in Wilmington.

In summary, these are the changes:

- 1) Fee reductions for pathology, laboratory, radiological services and durable medical equipment fees;
- 2) Caps on anesthesia fees;
- 3) Caps on hospital fees;
- 4) Caps on ambulatory surgical fees;
- 5) Limits on drug testing;
- 6) Changes to pharmacy reimbursements;

- 7) No inflationary adjustments;
- 8) Preferred drug list v. non-preferred.

On issues dealing with return to work status, the carrier will be responsible for distributing the "modified duty report". This is being done in an attempt to expedite the return to work of an injured employee.

Additionally, the 45-day appeal deadline for Utilization Reviews has been adopted.

Continuing Education Courses for Delaware Providers will now coincide with Delaware license renewal dates instead of the original dates of certification.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-632-9230.

Thank you,

Eric M. Doroshow
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