

Insurance Info



ACA ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF PROVIDERS

What You Need to Know When Treating a Federal Workers Compensation Beneficiary

- To treat patients covered by Federal Workers Compensation, providers must enroll with the Department of Labor--Office of Workers Compensation. For instructions on enrolling please visit: <https://owcp.dol.acs-inc.com> Click on "Provider" in the FECA section in the shaded portion on the top left side of the screen, then select "Provider Enrollment."
- Under the Federal Employee Compensation Act doctors of chiropractic can treat beneficiaries **with manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation.**
- Subluxation must be **demonstrated by x-ray** and be recognizable by "individuals trained in the reading of x-rays."
- Chiropractors can interpret their own x-rays. However, providers should know that the Department of Labor may request another provider read the x-ray once it is complete. If the x-ray is read by a provider who does not understand or document that a subluxation exists, future care may not be covered.
- A patient can choose a doctor of chiropractic as their treating physician under Federal Workers Compensation.
- The diagnosis for treatment must be subluxation. The provider may need to check with the FWC claims department (844-493-1966) for the ICD-10 equivalent code for the 839.XX series. The ICD-10 code must indicate a subluxation exists.
- A chiropractor may also provide services in the nature of physical therapy under the direction of a qualified physician.
- Federal Workers Compensation does not cover extra-spinal CMT.
- Federal Workers Compensation will cover x-rays if the diagnosis is subluxation and the subluxation is demonstrable on an x-ray.
- Federal Workers Compensation will cover Evaluation and Management services if the services provided are medically necessary.
- If a patient has chosen another provider as their treating provider and they wish to change providers the patient **MUST:**
 1. Make a request, in writing, to the claims examiner for a change of physicians.
 2. In the request, they must indicate the reason for the change, which doctor they want to change from, and the name of the doctor they want to change to.
 3. They must wait for the authorization to be final before seeking treatment from the new doctor. There is no guarantee that any coverage will be provided for the new physician prior to the date of the authorization to change doctors.

For more info please visit www.dol.gov or contact ACA Public Policy and Advocacy Department at insinfo@acatoday.org