

Public Comments Received October 28th via email:

I was informed that the WCA is soliciting feedback on a proposed rule change to allow for a "limited IME." As an IME provider, I feel that limiting the scope of some IMEs would be helpful. After reviewing the proposed changes, I have the following comments.

A primary concern when considering a limited Independent Medical Examination (IME) is that the IME provider needs to be given a stated causally related diagnosis. In my experience, IME requests consistently seek an expert opinion on causation, and the need for reasonable and necessary care will depend on the accepted causally related diagnosis.

I recommend clarifying that the purpose of a limited IME is to address a specific dispute between the parties regarding the reasonableness and necessity of medical care prescribed by an authorized healthcare provider (HCP) for a specified causally related diagnosis. This addition would ensure that the IME report directly addresses both parties' needs for clarity on medical treatment within the scope of the disputed treatment.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed rule change. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for further clarification if needed.

Chris Patton, DO.
New Mexico Orthopedic Associates.

I am in favor of limited IMEs for specific purposes that must be spelled out beforehand from a specific list of options.

Would the billing be "By Report"?

Bill Ritchie

William Ritchie, M.D., MBA, FAAOS

I have reviewed the proposal.
I do not have any objections.

William H. Brady, MD

Seems reasonable. A record review should be sufficient in most cases for this determination. A "limited IME" only in cases that are still under dispute.

Leon D. Zeitzer MD

