

HOT TOPICS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

Using Evidence Based Medicine to Analyze Medical Issues Commonly Encountered in Workers' Compensation Claims

This presentation, given by three orthopaedic surgeons, will provide an analysis of medical problems commonly seen in a work injury setting by using Evidence Based Medicine principles.

Tapering Patients Off Multiple Prescription Drugs

As a follow-up to earlier programs addressing drug abuse issues in the workers' compensation setting, this presentation discusses ways to discontinue various classifications of drugs commonly used together in workers' compensation. The session will also include such topics as withdrawal symptoms, determining which drugs to reduce first, and applying different de-prescribing tactics to the different drugs.

Establishing a Return to Work Program

In recognition of the powerful focus on workers' recovery needed for today's workers' compensation system, this session will explore regulatory options for standardizing return-to-work practices in workers' compensation and best practices for managing return-to-work programs using evidence-based medicine to improve overall health outcomes for injured workers.

Roundtable Discussion with Workers' Compensation Administrators from Neighboring States

This discussion, among regulators from neighboring states, will focus on evolving workers' compensation issues being encountered in those states in an effort to provide Mississippi insight into how some of those problems have already been successfully addressed by other jurisdictions.

MWCEA GOLF TOURNAMENT FOUR MAN SCRAMBLE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017

Boxed Lunches - 11:00 AM • TEE TIME - 12:00 PM

FALLEN OAK GOLF CLUB

24400 Highway 15 North, Saucier, MS 39574

fallenoak.com

HOSTED BY:



\$150 PER PERSON

(Includes: Green Fee, Cart, Range Balls & Lunch)

Name _____ Company _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Handicap _____

Requested Partners & Cart Assignment:

Cart 1 _____ Cart 2 _____

GOLF FEE PAYABLE TO MASI AND MAIL TO:

MASI, P.O. Box 1426, Jackson, MS, 39158

CONTACT: Dan Gibson, dangibson@masiweb.org/601-354-0199

PLEASE REGISTER BY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017.

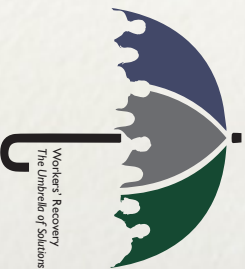
****REGISTRATION LIMITED TO FIRST 48 APPLICANTS.****

IN ORDER TO PLAY IN THIS GOLF TOURNAMENT, YOU MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE ANNUAL MS WORKERS' COMPENSATION EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Notice to Attendees

2017 Annual MS Workers' Compensation Educational Conference

Mississippi Workers' Compensation
Educational Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 13508
Jackson, MS 39236



MWCEA

The MWCC and MWCEA are proud to co-host this exciting gathering of Employers, Insurers, TPAs, Legal and Healthcare Professionals, and Rehabilitation Providers. Over 700 professionals are expected to attend this 3-day event. We are committed to providing you with a venue to network, learn and grow your business and professional efforts.



April 19 - 21, 2017
Beau Rivage Resort
Biloxi, MS

Register Today!



M W C E A

**Mississippi Workers' Compensation
Educational Conference**

April 19 - 21, 2017
Beau Rivage Resort • Biloxi, MS



Hosted by:
Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission and the
Mississippi Workers' Compensation Educational Association, Inc.
(MWCEA)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2017 Annual Mississippi Workers' Compensation Educational Conference, hosted by the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission and the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Educational Association, Inc. (MWCEA), will be held April 19-21, 2017, at the Beau Rivage Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi. The conference is an exciting gathering of employers, insurers, TPA's, legal professionals, healthcare professionals, rehabilitation providers and others involved in the workers' compensation field in Mississippi. An expected 700 professionals will attend the conference over the three-day period.

REGISTRATION: The conference registration fee is **\$225.00, if paid by March 14, 2017, and \$275.00 if paid after March 14, 2017.** Wednesday includes two optional programs, as described in this brochure and registration materials. Spouses/companions are invited to attend the conference at \$75.00 per person. Visit the conference website at **MWCEA.org** to register securely online. The registration fee includes all receptions, continental breakfasts, breaks, Thursday lunch and all conference materials. **You may pick up your conference materials on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, from 11:00AM to 6:30PM or Thursday, April 20, 2017, after 8:00AM at the conference registration desk at the Beau Rivage Resort.** On-site registration will be available at the Beau Rivage during the conference, but there is no guarantee of conference materials for the registrants. **No refunds will be given after March 31, 2017.**

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: The host hotel is the Beau Rivage Resort, 875 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi, MS 39530. Arrangements for accommodations should be made by visiting **MWCEA.org** and clicking on the hotel link in the conference tab or directly with the Beau Rivage Resort at (888)567-6667. The room rate is \$130.00 single/double. Please make your hotel reservations as soon as possible for there are only a limited number of rooms blocked for this conference. This rate will be available until March 13, 2017, or until the block of rooms is sold out. When making your hotel reservations, please indicate you are attending the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Conference.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: Up to 12 hours of continuing education credits have been applied for the following: Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, CLE (MS, AL & LA), CRC, CCM, CDMS, MS Adjusters, MS P&C Agents. You must be registered as an attendee to receive continuing education credits. Please refer to **MWCEA.org** for final approval for final CEU credits approved.

DRESS CODE: Business casual attire is appropriate for all conference events.

DOOR PRIZES: This year, there will be additional opportunities to win door prizes. In addition to the prizes from exhibitors, the MWCEA will award door prizes during several Thursday and Friday sessions. You must be present to win, so be sure to attend!

For additional information on CEU's, speakers and more,
visit MWCEA.org.

Should you have questions after you visit the website, please
contact Amanda Hammond at info@MWCEA.org.

MWCEA BOARD

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017

GOLFTOURNAMENT - sponsored by MASI	11:00AM-5:00PM
EXHIBITORS SET UP	10:00AM-5:00PM
GENERAL REGISTRATION	11:00AM-6:30PM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS	12:45PM-2:45PM

1. MISSISSIPPI WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW BOOT CAMP - A BROAD LOOK AT WHAT ONE NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT MISSISSIPPI WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Amanda Myers - Anderson Crawley & Burke, pllc - Ridgeland, MS

Amanda Hill Fritz - Chhabra and Gibbs, PA - Jackson, MS

This session is designed as a "big picture" overview of the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Law. The presenters will cover the basics required to understand workers' compensation in Mississippi and will provide the necessary tools for getting familiar with the law as well as a broad refresher course for those desiring that focus.

2. ISSUES FOR THE EXPERIENCED WC PROFESSIONAL - WHO WANTS TO BE AN ADJUSTER?

Moderator: **Pepper Cossar** - Markow Walker, PA - Jackson, MS

Steve Funderburg - Funderburg, Sessums and Peterson, PLLC - Jackson, MS

Holly Smalling - Copeland Cook Taylor and Bush, PA - Ridgeland, MS

This presentation is focused on the prevalent issues that are seen today in claims handling by experienced claims professionals. In a unique Question and Answer format, the program will discuss issues such as compensability, coverage, scheduled vs. nonscheduled members, subrogation and much more. In an exciting and fast passed session utilizing a game show format of true/false and multiple choice questions, these challenging issues will be analyzed, and participants will have the opportunity to utilize lifelines to phone a designated attorney or provider to assist or even ask the audience for help. The panel is comprised of well-known plaintiff and defense attorneys and there will be REAL prizes for the participants.

BREAK 2:45PM-3:00PM

Using Evidence Based Medicine to Analyze Medical Issues Commonly Encountered in Workers' Compensation Claims

3:00PM-5:00PM

David Gandy, MD - Jackson Orthopaedic Clinic, PA - Jackson, MS

Christopher Burks, MD - Bienville Orthopaedic Specialists - Gautier/Vancleave, MS

Daniel Boyd, MD - Oxford Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine - Oxford, MS

An Evidence Based Medical Practice has been defined as "Making a conscientious effort to base clinical decisions on research that is most likely to be free from bias, and using interventions most likely to improve how long or well patients live." This presentation is by three orthopaedic surgeons from different parts of the State who are well-known to the Mississippi Workers' Compensation community, and they will attempt to focus an analysis of medical problems commonly seen in a work injury setting by using Evidence Based Medicine principles.

RECEPTION 6:00PM-7:30PM

Honoring Outgoing Commission Chairman Liles B. Williams and Opportunity to Meet New Commission Chairman Exhibit Hall Open

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017

Registration & Information Desks Open 7:45AM-5:00PM

Faith Based Claims Association Breakfast - Everyone is invited! 7:10AM-7:25AM

Faith Based Leadership: Being the Ideal Team Player 7:25AM-8:25AM

John D. Damon, PhD, Chief Executive Officer - Canopy Children's Solutions - Jackson, MS

Today, now more than ever, it is critical for business leaders to move congruent with their faith and their call to business ethics. Servant leadership requires leaders to be ideal team players requiring us to model being humble, hungry and smart. This presentation will offer insight into the values, which should guide each of us through our daily business and professional relationships.

Continental Breakfast served in the Exhibit Hall 7:45AM-8:30AM

Exhibit Hall Open 7:45AM-5:15PM

NOTE - Exhibit Hall to remain open all day and not close during lunch.

Welcome, Awards, and State of Mississippi Workers' Compensation Address 8:30AM-9:15AM

Liles B. Williams, Outgoing Chairman - Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

Awards

Kenneth G. Perry Professionalism Award • Sam Cox Spirit Award • Kids' Chance of Mississippi

Roundtable Discussion with Workers' Compensation Administrators from Neighboring States

9:15AM-10:15AM

Moderator: **Beth Aldridge**, Commissioner - Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

Jeff Francis, Assistant Administrator - Tennessee Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Sheral Kellar, Director - Louisiana Workforce Commission, Office of Workers' Compensation Administration

Barbara Webb, Chief Executive Officer - Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission

Matt Zurek, Deputy Commissioner of Workers' Compensation - Texas Department of Insurance

This Roundtable is a forum where neighboring regulators share lessons learned and seek timely answers to their most pressing issues. The session brings together workers' compensation regulators from Mississippi's neighbors to discuss the issues they are facing. Some of the problems they will address are a part of landscape being seen in Mississippi, and we will benefit from hearing how some of those problems have already been successfully addressed by those jurisdictions.

BREAK 10:15AM-10:45AM

Tapering Patients Off Multiple Prescription Drugs

10:45AM-12:00PM

Mark Pew, Senior Vice President - Prium - Atlanta GA

Mel Pohl, MD, Medical Director and founder of Las Vegas Recovery Center - Las Vegas, NV

Dr. Aaron Wolfson, PhD - Jefferson Neurobehavioral Group - New Orleans, LA

This presentation discusses ways to discontinue various classifications of drugs commonly used together in workers' compensation. It will address the additional variables of a patient's metabolism, the expertise of the physician, psychosocial barriers, and clinical co-morbidities, which all make each tapering plan unique. Discussion points include: withdrawal symptoms, determining which classes of drugs to reduce first, dose reduction by class, drug

interactions, and applying different de-prescribing tactics to the different drugs. Psychosocial issue mitigation and non-pharmaceutical pain management will also be covered.

EXHIBITOR LUNCH 11:15AM-12:15PM
Exhibitor Lunch served in Exhibit Hall. Exhibitors are also invited to attend the Conference Lunch with attendees.

CONFERENCE LUNCH - served at 3 on-site restaurants 12:00PM-1:00PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1:00PM-2:00PM

1. Medicare Secondary Payer Hot Topics

Roy Franco, Chief Client Officer - Franco Signor - Bradenton, FL
Rafael Gonzalez, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Counsel - Flagship Services Group - Englewood, CA
This session by two of the nation's leading experts on the Medicare Secondary Payer Act will discuss the latest challenges being faced in that arena with suggestions for properly responding to the questions and offering tips to avoid the pitfalls often encountered in navigating that journey.

2. Preparing the Claimant, Employer or Other Witness for Testimony

Michael Darby - Charlie Baglan and Associates - Batesville, MS
Ginger Robey - Daniel Coker Horton & Bell, PA - Ridgeland, MS
Being able to testify in a matter in a coherent, professional, and non-confusing way allows any witness to offer proof that is designed to have a positive impact on the outcome of a litigated matter. A significant part of this challenge is in making sure the witness knows what is expected of him or her and being prepared to make the best presentation possible. Preparing a witness to do this properly is an art, and these seasoned attorneys will share their thoughts and experience on how to manage that preparation.

Risk Management is Not an Accident! 2:00PM-3:00PM

Clay Finley, EHS Senior Specialist - Toyota Boshoku MS - Tupelo, MS
Trey Phyfer, VP Environmental Safety and Health - United Furniture Industries - Tupelo, MS
Developing and maintaining a winning risk management program is a necessary and dynamic component of every successful business. Hear how to manage these significant and important issues from two of Mississippi's successful risk managers representing the furniture and automotive manufacturing industries. Whether it is related to training and educating new employees, accident prevention and safety issues, investigating an accident, dealing with employee turnover, managing the return to work component, or working successfully with attorneys once a matter enters litigation, these professionals will share their experience on how to have a successful risk management program.

BREAK 3:00PM-3:30PM

Case Law Update from the Mississippi Court of Appeals 3:30PM-5:00PM

Moderator: **Honorable Deneise Lott** - MWCC Administrative Judge
Honorable T. Kenneth Griffis, Presiding Judge - Mississippi Court of Appeals
Honorable David M. Ishee, Judge - Mississippi Court of Appeals
Honorable Jack L. Wilson, Judge - Mississippi Court of Appeals
In a dynamic and informative format, three judges from the Mississippi Court of Appeals will discuss and dissect recent workers' compensation opinions from that Court and the Mississippi Supreme Court. Moderated by Mississippi Workers' Compensation Administrative Judge Deneise Lott, the panel will offer insight into the Court's reasoning behind these very important decisions.

COURT OF APPEALS RECEPTION 5:30PM-7:30PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017

Exhibit hall to remain open through the break Friday morning at 10:15AM.

WC Section Breakfast 7:20AM-7:40AM

Ethics Session - Ex Parte Communications and the Ethical Considerations for the Workers' Compensation Practitioner 7:40AM-8:40AM

Honorable Trey Arnold - MWCC Administrative Judge
John Gonzalez, Esq. - Daniel Coker Horton and Bell, PA - Ridgeland, MS
Jim Wetzel - Wetzel Law Firm - Gulfport, MS
This distinguished panel will discuss the parameters attorneys confront regarding permissible and non-permissible ex parte communications with doctors, allied health providers, judges, and the inquiries into social media sources.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 8:00AM-9:00AM

Information and Registration Desks Open 8:00AM-11:30AM

Awards - Incoming Chairman, Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission 8:45AM-9:00AM

Awards

Mississippi Workers' Compensation Hall of Fame • Chairman's Award for Business Excellence • Claimant's Award

A Mock Functional Capacity Evaluation - Using an FCE to Focus on Ability Rather Than Disability 9:00AM-10:00AM

Hayley Barber, DPT - NewSouth NeuroSpine - Flowood, MS
A functional capacities evaluation is an extremely important tool in defining an injured worker's abilities inasmuch as a return to work analysis is impossible if the only focus is on disability. This session will include a look at the components of a standard FCE and include a portion of a live FCE for a real life picture of what is actually involved in an FCE. In addition, a discussion of the different types of FCE certifications will help the participants understand what an FCE should do and what it can do for improving results.

BREAK/CERTIFICATES - Exhibit Hall closes 10:00AM-10:30AM

Establishing a Return to Work Program 10:30AM-11:30AM

Carlos Luna, Director of Government Affairs - The Reed Group - Westminster, CO
Matt Zurek, Deputy Commissioner of Workers' Compensation - Texas Department of Insurance
Paola Stauffer, Vice President Claims Administration - WCF Insurance - Utah
There is growing awareness that worklessness is harmful to physical and mental health; absenteeism is a strong driver of higher medical consultation, medication consumption and hospital admission rates. This session will explore regulatory options for standardizing return-to-work practices in workers' compensation and best practices for managing return-to-work programs using evidence based medicine to improve overall health outcomes for injured workers.

DOOR PRIZES 11:30AM