Employee Notice of Political Subdivision Workers Compensation Alliance Program Requirements

Important Contact Information

- Alliance website is <u>www.pswca.org</u>
- Alliance phone number is 1-866-997-7922
- To contact your adjuster call 1-800-752-6301

Information, Instructions and your Rights and Obligations

As your employer, <u>Ector County</u>, has elected to utilize the Political Subdivision Workers Compensation Alliance (Alliance) to provide access to contracted physicians and healthcare providers for workers' compensation injuries.

If you are injured at work, tell your supervisor or manager immediately. The enclosed information will help you seek care for your injury. Also, your employer will help with any questions about how to get treatment. You may also contact The Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool Workers' Compensation Claims Department at 1-800-752-6301 for any questions about your care and treatment for a work related injury. TACRMP and your employer have formed a team to provide you with timely care and treatment for work related injuries. The goal is to provide quality medical care and return you to work as soon as it is safe to do so.

Injured Employees Rights and Obligations

What to do if you are injured while on the job:

If you are injured while on the job, tell your employer as soon as possible. A list of Alliance treating physicians may be available from your employer. A complete list is also available online at www.pswca.org or you may contact your adjuster directly at the following address and telephone number:

Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool P.O. Box 160120 Austin, TX 78716 1-800-752-6301

In case of an emergency

If you are hurt at work, you should first notify your employer and they will assist you in locating a provider or emergency care provider.

After you receive emergency care or treatment, you may require ongoing care. You will need to select a treating doctor from the Alliance provider list. This list is available at www.pswca.org. If you do not have internet access, please call 1-800-752-6301 or contact your employer for a complete listing. The doctor you choose will oversee the care you receive for your work-related injury. Except for emergency care, you must obtain all health care and specialist referrals through your treating doctor.

Choosing a Treating Doctor

If you are injured at work you must choose a treating doctor from the Alliance panel of providers. This is **REQUIRED** for the cost of your medical care for your work related injury to be covered. A provider listing is available through the Alliance website at www.pswca.org. It is updated weekly and identifies providers who are contracted with the Alliance and accept workers' compensation patients.

If your treating physician leaves the Alliance you will be notified and you will have the right to choose another treating doctor from the list of providers. If your doctor leaves the Alliance and you suffer a life threatening or acute condition for which a disruption of care would be harmful, your doctor will contact your adjuster to request that you treat with him/her for an additional 90 days.

Changing Doctors

If you become dissatisfied with your initial choice of treating physician, you can complete the *Change of Treating Doctor Form* to select a new treating doctor from the list of Alliance providers. This form is available at www.county.org and should be completed and submitted to your adjuster for approval *prior* to changing doctors.

Referrals

Referrals are not required for emergency care. Your treating doctor will refer you to other health care providers if necessary for your medical treatment.

Payments for Health Care

Alliance providers have agreed to bill TACRMP for payment in relation to your health care. You should not be required to make payment at the time of your treatment. You may only access non-Alliance health care providers and remain eligible for coverage of your medical costs if one of the following situations occur:

- Emergency care is needed. You should go to the nearest hospital, urgent care, or emergency care facility
- You do not live within 75 miles of a contracted provider
- Your treating physician refers you to a non-Alliance provider or facility AND your adjuster has approved the referral prior to treatment.

Non-emergency care

Once you have selected your treating physician, your adjuster will be notified and they will contact you if additional information is required.

Complaints

You have the right to file a complaint with the Alliance. You may do this if you are dissatisfied with any aspect of the operation. This includes a complaint about the Alliance or an Alliance treating physician or facility. It may also be a general complaint about the PSWCA Direct Contracting Program.

Complaints should be addressed to the PSWCA Direct Contracting Program Grievance Coordinator by phone or in writing via email or fax. Complaints should be sent to:

PSWCA Direct Contracting Program Attention: Grievance Coordinator P.O. Box 763 Austin, TX 78767 1-866-997-7922 customerservice@pswca.org