ALASKA WORKERS' COMPENSATION MEDICAL SERVICES REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

July 18, 2025

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION Telephone 977-853-5247 ID 867 2796 5944

Zoom Conference https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86727965944

AGENDA

July 18, 2025

9:00 am Call to order

• Roll call - establishment of quorum

• Approval of Agenda

• Minutes from June 27, 2025

• Issues from AWCB, DWC staff or MSRC

9:50 am Break

10:15 am Public Comment Period

11:15 am Break

11:30 pm Overview/Discussion of any MSRC Fee Schedule Issues

1:00 pm Adjournment



Workers' Compensation Medical Services Review Committee

Medical Services Review Committee Members

Charles Collins, Chair
Jeff Moore, MD
Mason McCloskey, DC
Mary Ann Foland, MD
Jeff Gilbert
Misty Steed
Pam Scott
Valerie Mittelstead
Susan Kosinski

Schedule for 2025

The Medical Services Review Committee meeting dates set for 2025 include an in person kick off on May 30th in the Eagle Street location in suite 208 at 9am. Zoom meetings are scheduled for June 27th, at 9am and July 18th at 9am. Our August 8th meeting at 9am will be in person at the Eagle St. building. All meetings will be broadcast with Zoom and a quorum must be present for all meetings. Public comments will be allowed at all meetings and recorded in the minutes.

A joint AWCB/MSRC meeting will be held in person on **August 22nd**, 2024, in the same location. The committee recommendations will be presented at this meeting.

Address is Department of Labor and Workforce Development 3301 Eagle St., suite 208 Anchorage, AK 99503.

2025 Medical Fee Schedule Changes

A historical table of adjustments included:

Alaska Conversion Factors and Multipliers for Medical Fee Schedule										
		017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Medicare Part B Average Sales Price	3	375	3.375	3.375	3.375	3.375	3.375	3.375	3.375	3.375
Cinical Diagnostic Laboratory Fee Schedule		5.33	6.33	6.33	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43
Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies		1.84	1.84	1.84	1.84	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.66
Surgery	20	5.00	174.00	165.00	132.00	125.00	119.00	119.00	119.00	119.00
Radiology	25	7.00	206.00	196.00	141.00	134.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00
Pathology and Laboratory	14	2.00	142.00	135.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00
Medicine	8	0.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
Evaluation and Management	8	0.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
Anesthesia	12	1.82	121.82	121.82	110.00	105.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
HCPCS(RBRvS) (relative values > 0 but no AKCF; defaults to 85% billed charges)										
Outpatient Facility	22	1.79	221.79	221.79	221.79	221.79	221.79	221.79	221.79	221.79
Ambulatory Surgical Center	22	1.79	221.79	221.79	177.00	168.00	168.00	168.00	168.00	168.00

Discussion Ideas

An example of a rental bill for certain DMEPOS products will be discussed and input from the MSRC on the proper placement in the Fee Schedule, any concerns will need to be addressed in this meeting. I asked Carla to consider making the conversion factor in each chapter more visible, this also will need input from the committee.

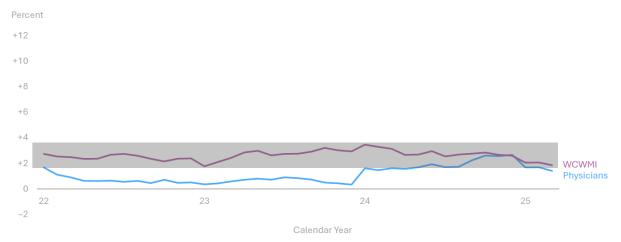
Carla is researching other states' policies and procedures around the IME/SIME reimbursement schedule. Further discussion on long-term care facilities and proper reimbursement is also ongoing. See the companion document for

This meeting should conclude with most of our updates and changes included, thus the pressure is on if we have concerns to be addressed to bring them to the table for discussion. Our August meeting, we should be looking at the draft for any final "cosmetic" changes.

I will remind the committee that we will have a couple of new members as both Sue and Pam have informed me of their plan to step down at the end of this year. Let's discuss the process and consider what works best for Alaska objectively.

Workers Compensation Weighted Medical Price Index (WCWMI) by Medical Cost Category

Year-Over-Year Percentage Change



Sources: WC Weighted Medical Price Index: 2022–2025 US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and NCCI Medical Cost Categories: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Component Weights: NCCI's Medical Data Call

AIS

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Alaska Division of Workers' Compensation Medical Services Review Committee Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2025

Friday, June 27, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Director Charles Collins called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. in Anchorage, Alaska. Participation was available in person and via video conference.

II. ROLL CALL

The following Board Members were present:

Dr. Mary Ann Foland Susan Kosinski Mason McCloskey Valerie Mittelstead Pam Scott Misty Steed

Members Jeff Gilbert and Dr. Jeff Moore were excused; a quorum was established.

III. Approval of May 30, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Member Steed moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Scott. The minutes were adopted without objection.

IV. FEE SCHEDULE DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION

The Committee reviewed how other states handle reimbursement for home health and ambulance services. Carla Gee provided a summary of state approaches, noting variations in billing codes, per diem rates, and authorization requirements.

Break 10:01 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: 10:15 AM- 11:15 AM

Debbie Ryan – Alaska Chiropractic Society

• Shared a personal experience supporting inpatient rehab services at St. Elias and highlighted the high value of the services they provide.

VI. FEE SCHEDULE DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION CONTINUED

Carla Gee presented the proposed edits to the 2026 Medical Fee Schedule, including updated E&M codes and expanded telehealth services.

The Committee discussed low reimbursement rates for IMEs and SIMEs; Carla will research how other states handle IMEs and SIMEs, including state-specific codes.

Misty Steed raised concerns about inpatient rehab (e.g., St. Elias) and long-term care facilities not being covered under existing critical access hospital pricing. Carla will

research if other states treat these facilities separately and explore whether Medicare PC pricers can be used.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Director Collins reminded the Committee that the next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2025.

Motion to adjourn by Member Foland, seconded by Member Kosinski. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.