

Compensation an5d Benefits Committee

Spring 2023 Update - Yukon

Update Question(s)		Response
1)	What are the current claim volumes in your jurisdiction? What are you seeing that's different from last year? What are the main drivers?	 Volume of claims for first entitlement decision has declined, 17%. Claims in the complex category have increased. Claims being triaged to RTW are roughly the same comparing 2022 to 2023 for indemnity and medical only claims. Claim duration overall is increasing and might be still linked to reduced services during covid. Further analysis is needed in this area.
2)	Psychological injury update: volume, claim management, impact on RTW, treatment, other challenges or new treatments or processes.	Psychological injury claims in 2022 represented 17% of total paid claims. Steep increase in 2023 Q1, 28% of new applications for psychological injury claims. Only 25% of new applications are accepted claims meeting criteria in our legislation. Data collection for all psychological injury claims from 2016-2022 through our psychological consultant is complete and report with recommendation has been delivered. Currently establishing working group to engage stakeholders (internal and external) to implement recommendations from the report.
3)	Have there been any recent significant legislation or policy changes? Or any coming up this year? Strategy map/scorecard changes?	The Workers Compensation Act changed on July 1. 2022. We are continuing reviewing and updating policies getting into a 5 year review cycle. At this point there are no significant updates or changes.

Update Question(s)	Response
 4) What are the current challenges your organization is experiencing? 	 Overall claims duration is consistently increasing. Planning for new strategic plan in fall 2023.
5) What new initiatives is your jurisdiction undertaking?	 Entering in service agreements with multidisciplinary concussion programs in BC, Vancouver area, using Worksafe BC's approach. Focus is on early support and education. Developing best practices for psychological injury claims implementing recommendations from the psychological claims review report. Upgrading claims management system
6) Any other challenges or topics of interest?	Staff's wellbeing and proactively support their resiliency to avoid burnout.