

MTUS Update

Use of the Guidelines, Formulary, and Website

2020 DWC Educational Conference

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Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule (MTUS)

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DWC Educational Conference
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Los Angeles – March 27, 2020

Overview of MTUS Rulemaking

- As a result of SB 1160 and the changes made to Labor Code §5307.27, the DWC is able to keep pace with the ever changing scientific evidence base.
- At the end of October 2019, the ACOEM guidelines incorporated into the MTUS were up-to-date.
- The MTUS guidelines were in complete synchronicity with the ACOEM guidelines.

Overview of MTUS Rulemaking

- But that did not last very long.....the MTUS rulemaking is analogous to painting the Golden Gate Bridge.
- November 8, 2019 - Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease Guideline.
- December 3, 2019 - Knee Disorders Guideline.
- January 13, 2020 - Depressive Disorder module.

This is the second module of the Workplace Mental Health Guideline

Overview of MTUS Rulemaking

- Rulemaking has already begun to incorporate these ACOEM guidelines into the MTUS.
- ACOEM is adding antiemetics drugs where applicable to their guidelines.
- Antiemetics are drugs used to treat nausea and vomiting associated with the side effects of general anesthesia, opioid analgesics, motion sickness, and chemotherapy.
- This will impact most of the MTUS guidelines.

Overview of MTUS Rulemaking

What does this mean?

- Rulemaking updates to the MTUS guidelines are keeping up with the scientific evidence.
- The likelihood of having to search outside of the MTUS guidelines are diminished.
- Confidence and trust in the MTUS guidelines.

Overview of MTUS Rulemaking

Labor Code § 4600(b) states,

“...medical treatment that is reasonably required to cure or relieve the injured worker from the effects off his or her injury means treatment that is based upon the guidelines adopted by the administrative director pursuant to Section 5307.27.”

Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule:

Status Update on the MTUS Drug Formulary















Division of Workers' Compensation
2020 DWC Educational Conference
Oakland & Los Angeles

MTUS Drug Formulary

- Mandated by AB 1124
- Rulemaking in 2017 / effective January 1, 2018
- MTUS Drug Formulary Structure
 - MTUS - ACOEM Treatment Guidelines – The Backbone
 - Presumed correct on scope of medically necessary treatment
 - MTUS Drug List – guides the prospective review requirements
 - “Exempt” drugs – No Prospective Review if in accord with MTUS
 - “Non-Exempt” & Unlisted Drugs – Prospective Review required
 - “Special Fill” & “Perioperative Fill” of specified Non-Preferred drugs
 - Ancillary Formulary Rules
 - Special Fill policy
 - Perioperative Fill policy
 - Physician dispensed drugs
 - Generic/Brand selection
 - Compounded drugs
 - Off-label use of drugs






MTUS Drug List Updates

Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule - Drug List

Effective date	MTUS Drug List (title 8, CCR §9792.27.15) Update Documents	Version
January 15, 2020	Order of the Administrative Director Adopting Update to the MTUS Drug List  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTUS Drug List v.6 (Addendum 1) • MTUS Drug List v.6 (Addendum 2) (changes indicated in underline/strikethrough) • MTUS Drug List v.6 (includes Addendum 1 and Addendum 2) 	6
August 1, 2019	Order of the Administrative Director Adopting Update to the MTUS Drug List  version  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTUS Drug List v.5 (Addendum 1) • MTUS Drug List v.5 (Addendum 2) (changes indicated in underline/strikethrough) • MTUS Drug List v.5 (includes Addendum 1 and Addendum 2) 	5
February 15, 2019	Order of the Administrative Director Adopting Update to the MTUS Drug List  version  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTUS Drug List v.4 (Addendum 1) • MTUS Drug List v.4 (Addendum 2) (changes indicated in underline/strikethrough) • MTUS Drug List v.4 (includes Addendum 1 and Addendum 2) 	4

MTUS Drug List - version 4








February 15, 2019	Order of the Administrative Director Adopting Update to the MTUS Drug List version  version  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTUS Drug List v.4 (Addendum 1) • MTUS Drug List v.4 (Addendum 2) (changes indicated in underline/strikethrough) • MTUS Drug List v.4 (includes Addendum 1 and Addendum 2) 	4
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Update to coordinate with Recently Adopted Traumatic Brain Injury Guideline

- Addition of drugs addressed in new ACOEM Traumatic Brain Injury Guideline
- New and Revised Drug Recommendations
- Designation of additional drugs as “special fill” eligible relating to TBI

MTUS Drug List - version 5







August 1, 2019	Order of the Administrative Director Adopting Update to the MTUS Drug List  version  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTUS Drug List v.5 (Addendum 1) • MTUS Drug List v.5 (Addendum 2) (changes indicated in underline/strikethrough) • MTUS Drug List v.5 (includes Addendum 1 and Addendum 2) 	5
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- Changes to the MTUS Drug List, based on the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) Practice Guidelines, including the following:
- New drug recommendations addressed in the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Guideline
- Designation of additional drugs as “special fill” eligible, due to treatment recommendation in the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Guideline

MTUS Drug List - version 6



January 15, 2020	Order of the Administrative Director Adopting Update to the MTUS Drug List  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTUS Drug List v.6 (Addendum 1) • MTUS Drug List v.6 (Addendum 2) (changes indicated in underline/strikethrough) • MTUS Drug List v.6 (includes Addendum 1 and Addendum 2) 	6
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The Administrative Director's update order adopts changes to the MTUS Drug List, based on the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) Practice Guidelines, including the following:

- New drug recommendations addressed in the Hip and Groin Disorder Guideline

MTUS Drug List – Accessibility Changes

- In each guideline there may be conditions for which the drug is:
 - Recommended (**R**),
 - Not Recommended (**X**), or
 - No Recommendation (**NR**).
- Replaces:
 - Recommended (✓),
 - Not Recommended (✗), or
 - No Recommendation (⊘).



California's New Drug Formulary – One-Year Checkup

By Julia Zhang, Ph.D. and YiChen Yu, M.S.

Summary

Effective January 1, 2018, the California Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) adopted an evidence-based drug formulary intended to reduce frictional costs in the workers' compensation system; restrict inappropriate prescribing, especially that related to opioids; and ensure that injured workers receive medically necessary medications in a timely manner. The Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau of California (WCIRB) reviewed the impact of the new drug formulary on prescribing patterns and pharmaceutical costs based on pharmaceutical transaction information through the first year of implementation. The WCIRB's findings include:

California's New Drug Formulary – One-Year Checkup

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- The share of prescriptions of drugs not subject to prospective utilization review (UR) in accordance with the formulary increased by 41 percent compared to the pre-2018 level, while that of drugs subject to UR declined by 18 percent.
- The use of opioids, compounds, physician-dispensed drugs and brand-name drugs with generic alternatives dropped sharply in 2018, the first year of the formulary.
- While a number of the aforementioned pharmaceutical components had been declining prior to the implementation of the formulary, the decline accelerated during 2018, suggestive of the effect of the drug formulary.

https://www.wcirb.com/sites/default/files/documents/research_brief_californias_new_drug_formulary_one_year_checkup.pdf

DWC Discussion of Example Issues

“How do I cite an MTUS-ACOEM guideline in my Request For Authorization?”

DWC Discussion of Example Issues

“I am not a medical provider, where can I access the MTUS – ACOEM guidelines?”

DWC Discussion of Example Issues

“What is the difference between Utilization Review and Independent Medical Review under Labor Code section 4610 v. MPN Independent Medical Review under Labor Code section 4616.4?”

DWC Discussion of Example Issues

“What clinical evidence is needed to support a request for hip replacement surgery?”

DWC Discussion of Example Issues

“How do you address a request for home modifications?”

DWC Discussion of Example Issues

“What does ‘No Recommendation’ mean in the MTUS-ACOEM Guidelines?”