

## **IAIABC 106<sup>th</sup> Convention – Virtual Committee Activity Summaries**

### **Disability Management and Return to Work Committee**

The Committee continued discussion of its mission and name. Suggestions were made for a new mission and committee name that will be emailed to Committee members for vote before it goes to the Board of Directors for approval. Committee members would like to begin using the IAIABC online communities for discussion about challenges, resources, and more between meetings. Participants heard speakers Dr. Ismail Nabeel, Linda Van Dillen, Ryan Guppy, and Jason Parker share experiences and insights into COVID-19's impact on return to work.

### **Dispute Resolution Committee**

The Dispute Resolution Committee conducted the IAIABC & NAWCJ Judicial Program during the third week of Convention programming which included sessions on virtual hearings, mental health, and presumptions. As part of the Committee's meeting, the group heard a spotlight presentation on Missouri's dispute resolution system from Nasreen Esmail and Lee Schaefer from the Missouri Division of Workers' Compensation. The Committee reviewed survey results on the impact of COVID on the use of technology and engaged in a roundtable discussion on virtual hearings and pandemic operations. Committee projects were also highlighted and include future spotlight presentations and a virtual mediation training program for 2021.

### **EDI Claims Committee**

The Claims Committee continues to support jurisdictions preparing to implement the Claims Release 3.1 standard. The committee reviewed a proposed final resolution for an enhancement to the standard requested by Alaska for the date benefits have begun, decreased, suspended, terminated, resumed, or changed. A new request submitted by Indiana to capture the date an injury became reportable was introduced. The committee also heard an update from the Net to Zero Effectiveness Work Group and the reporting concerns being evaluated. Finally, the committee considered future training needs and provided feedback on desired offerings.

### **EDI Proof of Coverage (POC) Committee**

The Proof of Coverage (POC) Committee heard updates from the jurisdictions planning to transition to the Proof of Coverage Release 3.0 Standard. The Committee heard an update from the XML Task Group and was provided with an overview of the new IAIABC POC XML Release 3.0 standard and available resources. The committee also received an update from Delisa Fairley, WCIO IAIABC liaison. The WCIO is considering organizational changes to its EDI Committee and Data Advisory Task Group that may impact WCPOLS and subsequently the Proof of Coverage standard. Oregon has proposed a new data element for PEO Federal ID Number for client-only policies that are pending WCIO approval. Upon approval, an Issue Resolution Request will be submitted to add this data element to the IAIABC Proof of Coverage Release 3.0 standard.

## **EDI Systems Committee**

The Systems Committee received an update of the new data elements and code values that resulted from the recently approved Issue Resolution Requests. Robbie Tanner presented changes that are proposed for the Edit Matrix Sequencing Table to further define events that may follow other events. The XML Task Group provided an update on the Claims Release 3.1 XML pilot and an overview of the new XML resources created for the Proof of Coverage Release 3.0 Standard.

## **EDI Medical and ProPay Committee**

The EDI Medical and ProPay Committee received a presentation from Oregon that outlined the benefits of Medical State Reporting. The committee also received an update on three new claim adjustment reason codes that have been submitted to X12 on behalf of New York and North Dakota. A report of all activities at the Federal level was provided which included an update on attachment regulations.

## **International Committee**

The International Committee reviewed access to the Committee's community on the IAIABC website and discussed this as a tool to connect with members, share resources, and engage in discussion. Karl Aumann, Chair, welcomed the newly elected IAIABC board members including Dr. Mohammed Azman of the Social Security Organisation of Malaysia. The Committee engaged in a roundtable discussion on lessons learned from the COVID-19 experience and future opportunities with comments from DGUV (Germany), WSIB (Ontario), Virginia, Maryland, and Saskatchewan. Future Committee projects include a spotlight on the Canadian provinces planned for the 2021 Convention in Toronto and work on a supplement to the IAIABC's fee schedule resource that examines how fee schedules are applied and managed outside the US. International participation opportunities were also shared with participants.

## **Medical Issues Committee**

The Medical Issues Committee continues to provide a forum to learn about healthcare delivery to injured workers and explore health issues impacting the workers' compensation. During the IAIABC 106th Convention the committee heard several presentations on the use of telemedicine in workers' compensation. Presentations shared perspectives from regulators and industry and told how the expanded use of telemedicine during the pandemic provides valuable measures and insight on how it can be used successfully. Additionally, committee members discussed a recent communication from the American Medical Association (AMA) to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on the end of the prescription driven opioid epidemic and re-focused attention on heroin and illicitly manufactured opioid-like drugs. Many in attendance expressed concern that inappropriate opioid and prescription use is on the rise during the pandemic and could be harming injured workers and delaying their return to work.

## **Regulation Committee**

The Regulation Committee heard an update on the PEO subcommittee from Sally Coen in Oregon. The Committee reviewed a final draft of its injured worker resource project and will send the final product to the IAIABC Board of Directors for approval. The Committee then focused on misclassification with an update from Abbie Hudgens and Amanda Terry on recent legislation in Tennessee, a presentation from Kathy Sibbald from Access Business Solutions on

the basics of misclassification, and a review of the US Department Labor's proposed rules that would revise the interpretation of independent contractor status under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

### **Research and Standards Committee**

The Research and Standards Committee reviewed the published results of its Claims Measures Survey – 2016 Calendar Year. A subcommittee was convened to begin discussion about potential modifications and providing clarity on some questions for the 2017 calendar year data collection. Meeting attendees participated in a discussion about workers' compensation COVID-19 data, including claims counts; denials and reasons for denials; differences between what is being reported to workers' compensation and departments of health; and duration. The Committee collected general COVID-19 claims and denial counts and will continue this project for the foreseeable future.

### **XML Task Group**

The XML Task Group received an overview of the new IAIABC Proof of Coverage Release 3.0 XML Standard and resources. The XML Quality Assurance team provided an update on the Kansas Claims Release 3.1 XML pilot and reviewed the changes that have been identified to date. The implementation timelines for both new XML standards were reviewed and we heard updates from those jurisdictions that are considering transition.