



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES

PO Box 44000 ● Olympia, Washington 98504-4000

March 31, 2009

To: Interested Persons

**From: Robert J Malooly, Assistant Director
Insurance Services**

Subject: Proposed amendments to the Medical Aid Rules

The Department of Labor and Industries is proposing changes to the Washington Administrative Code.

This rulemaking is being proposed to clarify in rule that psychiatric Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs) would be allowed to provide psychiatric services to injured workers. Currently, WAC 296-21-270 "Psychiatric Services," limits psychiatric care for injured workers to psychiatrists and psychologists. It is hoped that this rule-making will help to alleviate a serious access to care problem that currently exists.

The Department of Labor & Industries filed with the code reviser's office a CR 102, proposed rule-making, relating to:

- WAC 296-20-071 Concurrent Care,
- WAC 296-21-270 Psychiatric Services, and
- WAC 296-23-241 Can Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners independently perform the functions of an attending provider?

Public Hearing

May 15, 2009 9:00 AM

Department of Labor and Industries Headquarters

Room S117

7273 Linderson Way, SW

Tumwater, WA 98501

Written Comments

Written comments will be accepted up to 5:00 PM (PST) May 22nd, 2009. Any written comments on the proposed WAC changes should be sent to Jami Lifka, Medical Program Specialist, via:

Mail or FAX or e-mail
Department of Labor and Industries (360) 902-6315 lifk235@lni.wa.gov
Office of the Medical Director
PO Box 44321
Olympia, WA 98504-4321

Proposed Adoption Date

The proposed rules are scheduled for adoption on June 16, 2009, with a scheduled effective date of July 17, 2009.

If you have any questions regarding the proposed rules, please call Jami Lifka at (360) 902-4941.

cc: Judy Schurke - Director
 Gary Franklin, MD, MPH – Medical Director
 Jason McGill – Medical Administrator