Occupational Medicine



What is Workers' Compensation?

- It is the oldest social insurance program in the United States. Adopted in California in 1913 through the Boynton Act.
- It is a no-fault system. Injured employees do not have to prove the injury was someone else's fault in order to receive compensation. Injuries for employees who found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol or engaged in horseplay at the time of injury will not be covered.
- Employers are protected against litigation even when the injury was caused by employer negligence. As a check, employers must abide by OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) standards and can be subject to fines and penalties for violations.

Key differences from private insurance:

- The patient is not responsible for the bill and *no copays are collected*.
- The patient's employer has access to the patient's work status and the insurance company has access to all reports and work status on the patient.
- Visits are scheduled using Occupational Medicine visit types (IWC or WCV)
- The patient has a separate electronic chart for occupational related visits. It is found in Touchworks under the label HCN/WC.

Work Injuries



What is a work injury?

- Any injury that occurs while on the job.
- Examples of work injuries include tripping on cords, falling down stairs, needle sticks, and hands hurting from working several hours a day on the computer.

How is a work injury recognized?

- Patients call and complain about a physical problem that began at work.
- Patients come in to see the physician regarding an injury that occurred while working.

Where to send the patient for new injures:

- Send the patient to the nearest Occupational Medicine site at SRSMG. These clinics are located in a half-dozen of our SRSMG buildings.
- Occupational Medicine will contact the patient's employer for authorization.
- Please note that not every company uses SRSMG for their Occ Med care.

Other Occupational Medicine Clinic Services:

- Pre-employment physicals/DMV physicals/Drug screens
- Annual Hazardous Material exams



Occupational Medicine and Urgent Care Department Locations

Chula Vista

Address: 525 Third Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91910 **Phone:** 619-585-4050 **Fax:** 619-585-4054

Hours: *M-F*, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Urgent Care: *Daily*, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Downtown San Diego

Address: 300 Fir Street, San Diego, CA 92101 **Phone:** 619-446-1524 **Fax:** 619-234-9160

Hours: *M-F*, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Urgent Care: *M-F*, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., Sat/Sun 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Genesee/Central San Diego

Address: 2020 Genesee Ave, San Diego, CA 92123

Phone: 858-616-8400 Fax: (858) 616-8420 **Hours:** *M-F* 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

La Mesa/GMP

Address: 5525 Grossmont Center Drive, La Mesa, CA 91941

Phone: 619-644-6600 **Fax:** 619-644-1208

Hours: *M-F*, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Urgent Care: *Daily, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.*

Sorrento Mesa

Address: 10243 Genetic Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92121

Phone: 858-526-6150 **Fax:** 858-526-6153

Hours: *M-F*, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Urgent Care: *Daily, 8:00 a.m.* – 8:00 p.m.

Rancho Bernardo

Address: 16899 W. Bernardo Drive, San Diego, CA 92127

Phone: 858-521-2350 **Fax:** 858-521-2354

Hours: M-F, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Urgent Care: *Daily, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.*

Urgent Care Visits for Occupational Medicine Patients



Procedure for Occupational Medicine Patients:

- Ask the patient when they check in if the injury is work related
- Send the patient to Occ Med during business hours (8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.)
- After business hours, create a case and obtain authorization from the employer.
 (Sometimes the patient will present to Urgent Care with an authorization form filled out by the company)
- If no authorization is given, the patient must fill out a conditions of registration with agreement to pay in full if the employer does not pay.
- Occupational Medicine will call for authorization the next business day.
- It is not unusual for a patient to come into Urgent Care after business hours for an Occupational Medicine injury.

When to Transfer a Private Patient to Occupational Medicine:

- When the patient's private physician determines the patient's injury was caused by or occurred during his/her employment, the patient is sent to Occupational Medicine for evaluation.
- Occupational Medicine will refer to Specialty Care as needed and will coordinate with billing and transcription.

Specialty Care:

- An Authorization Coordinator from Occupational Medicine will coordinate the patient's specialty care referral.
- When a Specialty Care provider needs authorization for treatment, a task is sent to OM Case Management to obtain approval.



Forms:

- Work Status forms are provided to the patient and a copy goes to the employer.
 The status is then entered into the case status screen.
- City employees are pre-authorized and they do not need authorization to be seen for treatment of their injury. A special work status form is used for city employees (see example)

Your Impact on the Bottom Line



Best practices:

- Book appointments with IWC or WCV for Occupational Medicine patients.
- Confirm the case description when scheduling to match referral.
- If case is closed or doesn't match, stop and investigate.

Booked Correctly:

- The billing is sent to the correct insurance company.
- The transcription information preloaded correctly.
- The corresponding case can be selected in HCN.



Not Booked Correctly:

- Mistakes in billing and report transcription can happen.
- SRSMG uses valuable resources in billing/other departments to correct errors.
- We can put the patient benefits and treatment at risk.

Most medical treatment requires preauthorization from the workers' compensation insurance carrier. Lack of a proper report can delay treatment for the patient. If services occur without preauthorization from the Workers' Compensation insurance carrier, we risk not getting paid for medical treatment.

One small action in the beginning really does affect SRSMG's bottom line.

Not sure about booking an appointment?

- Stop and investigate.
- Contact Occupational Medicine onsite or closest to you or call Case Management (858) 262-6306 to confirm the process.

Scheduling Occupational Medicine Patients

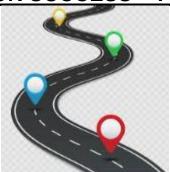


Two main visit types: **IWC** = Initial Work Comp Visit (Initial *e.g. NOV or CON*) **WCV** = Work Comp Visit (Follow up *e.g. RCK*)

If someone is calling from outside SRSMG to schedule a New Workers' Compensation patient in Specialty Care, please STOP. This includes outside physician's offices, attorneys, adjusters, and nurse case managers.

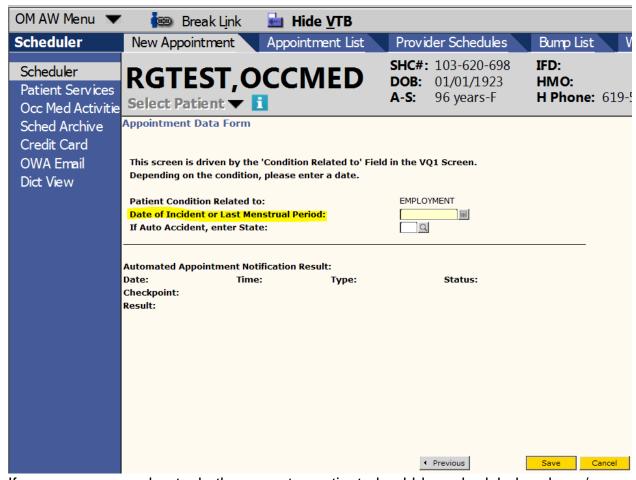
Please transfer them to (858) 262-6306 to speak with Roberta Curry in Occupational Health Services Case Management for screening.

ROADMAP FOR SUCCESS – 7 EASY STEPS



When scheduling an Occupational Medicine patient you must:

- 1. Schedule using a Work Comp visit type.
- 2. Include the body part or the diagnosis in Comment section, first line.
- 3. Enter the expiration date of the authorization in the Comment 1 section (Next to the body part/diagnosis).
- 4. Enter the case number. Be sure to verify the case Description matches the diagnosis or body part.
- 5. Change the patient condition to reflect "Employment", then enter ""T" then press the tab key to return to the appointment (see example on back of page)
- 6. Enter the authorization number including any letters (without any special characters including commas, slashes, etc.) in the "AUTH" box. Can also enter the adjuster's name, or the words PASSPORT or PREAUTH.
- 7. Enter the referring physician name.



If you are unsure about whether or not a patient should be scheduled under w/comp, please call Case Management at (858) 262-6306.

Work Status:

The work status (PR-2) form needs to be completed by the provider each time a workers' compensation patient is seen. If the provider does not feel comfortable commenting on the work status, he/she can write "no change in status" which will defer the work status to the primary treating physician. Please call (858) 262-6306 if there are any questions regarding this.

The work status must be entered the same day as the patient's visit, preferably prior to leaving the office.

Instructions:

To enter the work status, enter the case screen, select the gray "page" icon, select "D for status screen", enter the date of the visit, body part, work status, next office visit, M.D. name, and the work status and your username/location. For assistance, please call (858) 262-6306.

Follow Up Appointments:

If possible, follow up appointments are requested to be scheduled prior to the patient leaving the office, before the work status is entered.

Work Status Form - Example 1 (Most Carriers)



 Chula Vista - (619) 585-4050
 □ La Mesa - (619) 644-6600

 □ Downtown - (619) 446-1524
 □ Sorrento Mesa - (858) 526-6150

 □ Kearny Mesa - (858) 616-8400
 □ Rancho Bernardo - (858) 521-2350

	FIRST AID ONLY: Yes \(\text{No} \(\text{No} \)					
Employee Name:	Date:					
Employee Name.	Time In:					
	Time Out:					
SRSMG #:						
Case #:(Attach Label)	Work related Event: Yes No Indeterminate Visit: Initial Recheck Initial Necheck Initial Nechec					
To Be Completed By Employer:						
Company Name:	Phone #:					
Authorization Signature:C	ontact Person:					
Work Status:						
Return to regular work, effective date:						
Unable to return to work, effective date:						
☐ Modified work, effective date:	/ Estimated Duration:					
Modified Work Status: Dominant Hand	 Keep injured part clean, dry & covered No use of Right/Left hand/upper extremity No/Limited pushing/pulling/grasping/torquing of Right/Left hand Repetitive hand/wrist work limited to Keyboard work limited to Can work in splint/support only/as needed Hand/Neck/Back stretching breaks for Rotate job tasks to minimize continuous repetitive hand/wrist motion No overhead lifting or reaching with Right/Left upper extremity No overhead work Avoid prolonged neck flexed/extended/twisted posture. No forceful pushing or pulling 					
Physician Remarks to Employer:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
ext Appointment:	Refer To:					
	ove checked location if you have any questions or if more information is require					
Physicians Remarks to Employee:	Prescriptions:					
* 1						
	000 NO #					
	Dx: SRS MD #					

SHC OH 186 S (rov 6 4 2012) AMS # 30681 50/PKG

Work Status Form - Example 2 (City of San Diego)



Medical Status Report for Occupational Injury or Illness

INSTRUCTIONS: Employee must submit this form to physician for completion at each medical evaluation. This is not required for each physical therapy visit. Submit completed leave slip to supervisor or department designee after every visit.

			EMPLOYEE					
RINT NAME (LAST, FIRST, MI) CLASSIFICATION			SOCIAL SECURITY NUMB	CURITY NUMBER		CITY I.D. NUMBER		
DEPARTMENT / DIVISION	٧	DATE OF INJU	REOCCURRENC	250000000000000000000000000000000000000		SUPERVISOR PHONE NUMBER		
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF	OCCUPATIONAL INJURY OR II	LNESS						
		MEDICAL STATUS IN REG WILL SUBMIT A MEDICAL						
HEREBY AUTHOR	RIZE RELEASE OF MED	ICAL INFORMATION REG	QUESTED BY MY EN	MPLOYER.				
X								
Signature	Signature		Date	Date		ie		
*INDUSTRIAL LEA	/E IS SUBJECT TO APP	ROVAL BY RISK MANAG	EMENT IN ACCORD	ANCE WITH A.R. 63	.00.			
			PHYSICIAN					
TREATING PHYSICIAN		ADDRESS				PHONE		
*								
BRIEF PROGNOSIS		15	DATE OF VISIT		BULT IN AGG. OF N-IND. CONDITION?	WORK RELATED INJURY?	☐ INITIAL VIS ☐ RECHECK ☐ FINAL VISIT	
RETURN TO RE	EGULAR WORK – EFFE	CTIVE DATE:						
☐ ELEVATE INJU ☐ SITTING WORI ☐ NO KNEELING ☐ NO REPETITIV ☐ WEIGHT LIFTIT ☐ SEDENTARY V	OR SQUATTING 'E CLIMBING, BENDING OF NG RESTRICTIONS	REASE SWELLING R TWISTING LBS.	☐ HAND/NECK/☐ ROTATE JOB☐ NO OVERHE/☐ NO OVERHE/☐	N SPLINT/SUPPORT ON BACK STRETCHING BF TASKS TO MINIMIZE C AD LIFTING OR REACH AD WORK DNGED NECK FLEXED/	REAKS FOR ONTINUOUS REF ING WITH RIGHT.	LEFT UPPER EX		
		TIVITIES AT THIS TIME.						
NEXT APPT. DATE		PHYS. SIGNATURE _	THE SECRET SHE WAS AND APPLICATION	AUTO CONTRACTOR DE SANCIONA DE CASA DE	TIME IN	TIME O	JT	
		PHY	SICAL THERA	PY				
PHYSICAL THERA	A STOCKED SCHOOLSONING	TIME OUT	DATE	TIM	E IN	TIME OUT		
	TIME IN	TIME OUT	DATE _	TIM				
DATE	TIME IN	TIME OUT	DATE_	TIM	E IN	TIME OUT		
		D	EPARTMENT					
LIGHT DUTY	IS 🗌 IS NOT AVAILAE	LE AT THIS TIME. ASSIG	SNMENT: DEPT./DIV					
WORK LOCATION SUPERV		PERVISOR		PHONE				
Light Duty	/ Coordinator	Date	18					
			PAYROLL					
INC. DATES OF ABSENCE: FIRST DATE LAST								
			REC	COMMEND: APP	ROVED D	ISAPPROVED	☐ PENDI	
Division H	lead / Designee							
RM-1634 (4-10)	II 1010 (05 100 (00 180 18		WH	TE: RISK MANAGEMEN	JT CANARY D	EPARTMENT D	INK. EMDI O	

Workers' Compensation Vocabulary



Adjuster or Claims Examiner:

The adjuster is the person at the work comp insurance company who approves or denies treatment (they can also designate a UR company to review treatment requests). They are responsible to administrate the patient's claim.

Nurse Case Manager:

The Nurse Case Manager is assigned by the Workers' Compensation insurance company to ensure that the patient is receiving proper medical treatment in a timely manner.

PTP or Primary Treating Physician:

This is the main work comp physician who needs to see the patient every 45 days and is responsible for completing the permanent and stationary report.

MMI or Maximum Medical Improvement:

This is determined by the PTP- this is when the patient is basically "as good or as stable as they are going to get".

P&S or Permanent and Stationary:

This is the rating given by the PTP indicating that the patient has reached maximum medical improvement. Patients may still receive treatment, but it is important to read the P&S report to see if the patient is entitled to future medical care. Authorization for care should always be verified with the adjuster.

Modified Duty:

This is a work status which allows the patient to return to work with certain restrictions (i.e.: no lifting >5lbs or no use left upper extremity) which are given by the physician.

<u>Temporary Total Disability (TTD):</u> Patients are placed on TTD when the nature of their injury is so severe that they can't work, even with restrictions. While TTD, injured workers are paid for time off work by their adjuster.

Utilization Review:

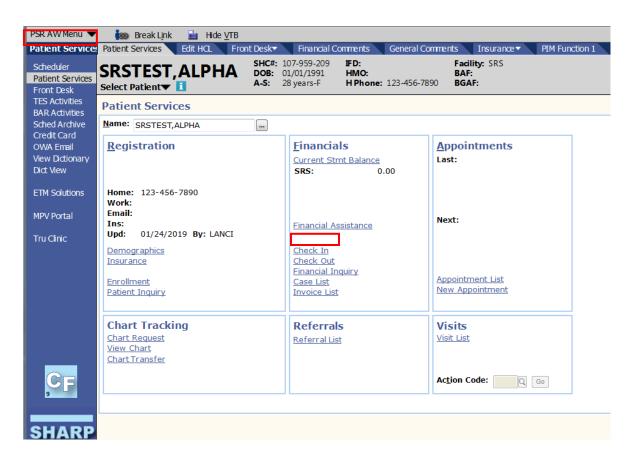
This process occurs when treatment is needed. RFA (Request for Authorization) is submitted to Utilization Review to certify medical necessity. Most treatment requires preauthorization through Utilization Review.

Instructions to Enter a Work Status into Advanced Web

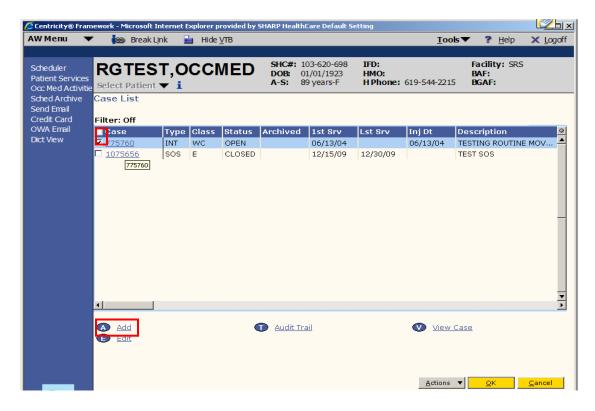
- Follow-up appointment should be made prior to entering a work status.
- If the patient is not going to see the same provider again (i.e.: the patient is being sent back to Occ Med), please contact the Occ Med clinic by phone or email so that a follow-up appointment will be scheduled. If the patient's primary treating physician or referring physician is outside Sharp Rees-Stealy be sure to note it in the status screen (ex: patient to return to outside M.D. who is PTP).

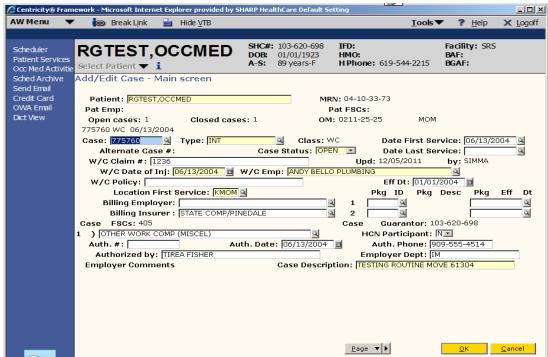
To Begin:

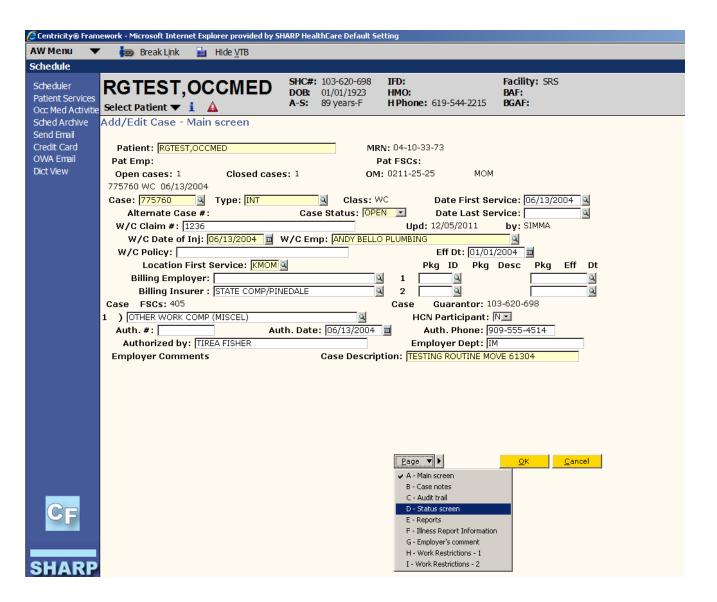
- Verify the patient in the Advanced Web Patient Profile Screen
- Select Case List



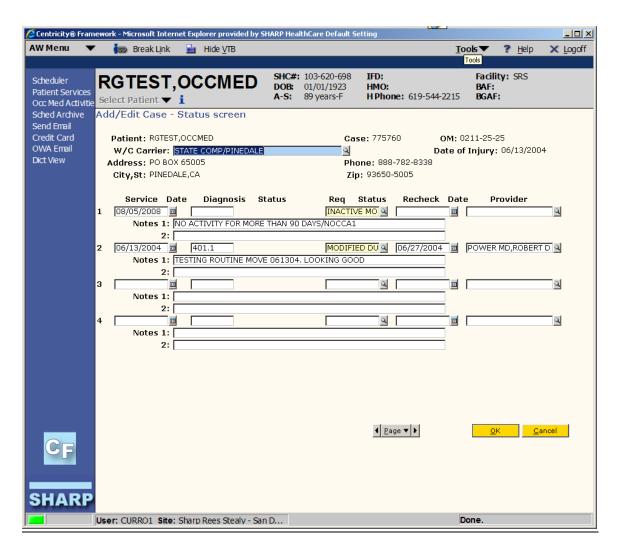
 Select the case status that will be entered into. To choose a case, click on the box next to the case number and click on the Add/Edit button. Main Screen will be in edit mode.







- Once you have opened the case, select the icon labeled "Page" with the arrow pointing down (See example below).
- Click on "D- Status Screen" to go directly to the status screen.



- Press tab to the first blank space.
- Enter the date, or enter "T" for today's date.
- Tab to each section. Be sure to fill in each section in CAPS as described at the top i.e.: Diagnosis, Status, and Recheck Date. Under Diagnosis, enter the body part or condition i.e.: Rt Arm or Fx Lt Knee. Note: To select correct status, click on magnifying glass icon and select from the list. Once the complete status has been entered, click OK. Be brief in the case description field and include your user name and site i.e.: LOCAL/GMPPOD.
- To confirm you have entered the status correctly, select "View" from the Add/Edit Main Case Screen, and click the "down" arrow, select "D-Status Screen".



Occupational Health Case Management

Case Management Specialty Care/Educator:

Please contact for Specialty Care authorizations except Physiatry and General Surgery scheduling questions.

Roberta Moran Curry

<u>Ph:</u> (858) 262-6306 <u>Fx:</u> (858) 637-6506

Physiatry/Dr. Robert Scott:

Please contact for Physiatry/PM&R/Pain Management

Cathy Simmerman

Ph: (858) 616-8400 Option 1, Option 2

General Surgery:

Roxann Pena

Ph: (858) 499-6505 Fx: (858) 637-6506

To request **STAT** Specialty Care Occupational Medicine reports, please email your request to: OHS Transcription. Include the patient's name, provider's name, date of the visit, and the encounter/visit number.

For billing inquiries, please contact the Occupational Medicine Business Office at (858) 499-3650.

Mailing address:

5651 Copley Drive, Ste. A, San Diego, CA 92111

Please note No patients are seen at the Copley Drive location.