

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT OF WORKERS' CLAIMS
657 CHAMBERLIN AVENUE
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

MEDICAL WAIVER AND CONSENT

I, _____ having filed a claim for workers' compensation benefits, do hereby waive any physician-patient, psychiatrist-patient, or chiropractor-patient privilege I may have and hereby authorize any health care provider to furnish to myself, my attorney, my employer, its workers compensation carrier or its agent, the Division of Workers' Compensation Funds, the Uninsured Employers' Fund, or Administrative Law Judge any information or written material reasonably related to my work-related injury occurring on or about _____ any medical information relevant to the claim including past history of complaints of, or treatment of, a condition similar to that presented in this claim or other conditions related to the same body part.

Such information is being disclosed to the purpose of facilitating my claim for Kentucky workers' compensation benefits.

I understand I have the right to revoke this authorization in writing at any time, by sending written notification to each individual health care provider, but such revocation will not have any affect on actions taken prior to revocation. Moreover, inasmuch as KRS 342.020(8) requires a medical waiver to be executed, revocation may result in suspension or delay of the workers' compensation claim.

I understand that no medical provider may condition treatment or payment on whether I sign this medical waiver; however, I further understand that failure to sign this medical waiver may result in suspension or delay of the workers' compensation claim.

I understand that the information used or disclosed pursuant to this medical waiver may be subject to re-disclosure by the recipient.

This authorization shall remain valid for 180 days following its execution. A photocopy of the authorization may be accepted in lieu of the original.

The authorization includes, but is not restricted to, a right to review and obtain all copies of all records, x-rays, x-ray reports, medical charts, prescriptions, diagnoses, opinions and courses of treatment.

Signed at _____, Kentucky, this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Signature of Patient Or Personal Representative

Social Security Number: _____

Witness Signature

Description Of Personal Representative's Authority

KENTUCKY WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND HIPAA

On April 14, 2003, the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA] privacy regulation will take effect. This regulation limits the situations in which medical providers may release patient information, unless the information is necessary for the purpose of treatment, payment, or health care operations. Moreover, it is important to note that disclosures for workers' compensation are in most instances exempt from HIPAA privacy requirements. The exact wording is as follows: "A covered entity may disclose protected health information as authorized by and to the extent necessary to comply with laws relating to workers' compensation..."

Since HIPAA defers to state law regarding disclosures relating to workers' compensation, it is important for claimants and medical providers to know what Kentucky law requires for disclosure of patient information. An employee who reports a work injury or who files for workers compensation benefits must "execute a waiver and consent of any physician-patient, psychiatrist-patient, or chiropractor-patient privilege with respect to any condition or complaint reasonably related to the condition for which the employee claims compensation." KRS 342.020 (8). Kentucky law further states that once this Form 106 is signed, any health care provider "shall, within a reasonable time after written request by the employee, employer, workers' compensation insurer [or its agent or assignee], special fund, uninsured employers fund, or the administrative law judge, provide the requesting party with any information or written material reasonably related to any injury or disease for which the employee claims compensation."

Once the Form 106 is signed, health care providers may disclose information as set out in Kentucky law. Another section of the regulation allows release of information pursuant to an administrative or judicial order or subpoena, provided that there has been a reasonable effort to notify the injured worker [or his attorney] that such a request has been made. Should there be questions regarding disclosures pursuant to this form, appropriate legal counsel should be consulted or you can contact the Department of Workers' Claims at 800 554-8601.