

OIC Rules Coordinator

From: Robert H <robertghaddad@gmail.com>
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Hello,

I am writing in support of stopping or limiting the FairHealth organization from dictating reimbursement in WA state. I believe the entire profession was shocked how this provision, which only benefits insurance companies in this case, came about in WA state. Regularly, I see patients who have waited weeks or months to seek care after an injury solely due to concern regarding medical bills being paid. At that point their chances of a full recovery and full return to work are reduced. This does nothing to improve that situation and may in fact worsen it.

The use of a single company (FairHealth.org) which systematically reduces provider payments without any transparency is alarming. Patients already have the right to know costs upon request. In addition it does not delineate between primary provider billing and the same code used by a medical specialist.

I believe it also increases overall costs as any trained medical biller would be motivated to raise their prices to assure they are getting the maximum possible reimbursement under this system in addition to upward pressure as to what constitutes 80%. This significantly harms the uninsured as a dual-fee schedule is unlawful and makes care out of reach.

I support eliminating or at least limiting the influence of FairHealth.org in WA state.

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