

## Professional Practice Corner

Are physician assistants able to treat worker's compensation injuries?

Yes. The Department of Workforce Development section of the Wisconsin Administrative code DWD80.72(2)(L) deals worker's compensation issues. The code includes physician assistants in the definition of a "provider" or "health care provider". According to a memo from the Bureau of Legal Services, Worker's Compensation Division, "treatment provided to an injured employee by a physician assistant is billable". It goes on to say "an insurer may not deny the entire fee simply because the treatment was provided by a physician assistant (assuming the treatment is appropriately coded and with in the scope of services that a physician assistant is licensed to perform)".

Both the memo mentioned above and DWD80.72(2)(L) from the Wisconsin Administrative Code are available. Please call or email if you would like a copy.