

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Division of Workers' Compensation – Rules of Procedure

Rule 6 – Modification, Termination, or Suspension of Temporary Disability Benefits

Helpful information on Termination of Disability Benefits and reasons for potential termination of benefits can be found at: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/Employer's_Guide.pdf

Rule 8 – Authorized Treating Physician

Colorado's Senate Bill 14-1383 requires employers to provide a list to injured employees of at least four medical providers from which the claimant may choose treatment when work-related injuries occur effective April 15, 2015. The law necessitates that the four designated providers have no common ownership and they must be at distinct locations. In the event that emergency services are needed, the injured worker should be taken to any physician or medical facility that is able to provide the necessary care. When emergency care is no longer required, the injured worker should select a designated provider for the remainder of their care. The following are the exceptions to the law:

Location:

In areas where there are fewer than four physicians or corporate medical providers within thirty miles of the employer's place of business willing to treat an injured employee, the employer can designate one physician or one corporate medical provider.

On-Site Healthcare Facility:

If an employer has a qualified on-site healthcare facility it can be designated as the treating physician or provider.

The above information was summarized from the full version of Rule 8, which can be found using the below link: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/Rule_8.pdf

Other Important Updates to Rule 8:

HB 10-1038 – Requires that all injured workers receive a brochure from the claims administrator advising of potential rights, benefits, and penalties

SB 10-012 – Doubles the penalty from \$500/day up to \$1000/day for failure to act in accordance with prescribed duties or time constraints

SB 10-013 – Injured Worker Survey: post-claim Satisfaction Survey upon completion of the claims process

SB 10-163 – Workers' Compensation Procedures:

- Changes communication between treating physicians
- Admitting/denying liability
- Transmittal of Documentation

SB 10-178 – Provider Review and Disclosure Act