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## SPECIAL PENNSYLVANIA WORKERS' COMPENSATION ALERT

**EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 24, 2011, THE BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION IS USING A NEW UTILIZATION REVIEW REQUEST FORM (LIBC 601), ALLOWING CHALLENGE TO THE REASONABLENESS AND NECESSITY OF MEDICAL TREATMENT OF MULTIPLE PROVIDERS**

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Starting October 24, 2011, and mandatory as of January 2, 2012, the Bureau of Workers' Compensation has authorized a new Utilization Review Request form (LIBC 601) for use in challenging the reasonableness and necessity of a claimant's medical treatment by multiple providers. The old form LIBC 601 could only be used to challenge a single provider of medical treatment, thus requiring the filing of multiple forms – at significant cost – to challenge more than one provider of the same medical treatment. For

instance, if three different physicians from a medical practice provided the claimant with medical treatment, the Bureau required three separate UR forms/fees. The new form allows the review of multiple providers identified on one form with payment for a single UR. In practice, it appears that, while the new form will be accepted for review of multiple providers of the same specialty for one fee, challenges to treatment by providers from different specialties will be billed separately for the different reviewers.

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