



State of Wisconsin \ Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations

WORKER'S COMPENSATION DIVISION

March 3, 1986

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WC CLAIM NO: 85 34802
INJURY DATE: 6/7/85
EMPLOYEE:
EMPLOYER:

IF YOU CALL OR WRITE US
PLEASE USE WC CLAIM NO.

The intent of sec. 102.13(1)(d)(3) and sec. 102.13(2) is to provide insurance carriers and self-insured employers with a ready access to medical information so that delivery of benefits can promptly be made. It has long been the practice in this state for insurance carriers and self-insured employers to call a doctor's office directly in order to obtain prompt information about the extent of the injured employe's disability. Many payments are made by insurance companies and self-insured employers on the basis of that type of telephone call. This is in accord with the intent of the Worker's Compensation Act, that is, the speedy delivery of benefits to an injured employe. The fact that a claim is in litigation does not obviate the necessity for prompt information.

Therefore, we regard as proper an insurance carrier's or self-insured employer's communication with a treating physician whether or not such communication be written or verbal.

Very truly yours,

H. F. Benkert
Legal Services Director

HFB:FR1005

