



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Consumer and Business Services  
Workers' Compensation Division  
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August 9, 2006

To: Oregon workers' compensation insurers, self-insured employers, third-party administrators, attorneys, managed care organizations, claims examiners and medical providers

Subject: Review of lumbar disc arthroplasty (artificial disc replacement surgery) by the Medical Advisory Committee

The Medical Advisory Committee, Workers' Compensation Division, is reviewing the surgical procedure lumbar disc arthroplasty, using scientific studies and other information. The goal of the committee is to determine whether the surgical procedure is unscientific, experimental, unproven, or outmoded. The committee will be guided in its consideration by Oregon Revised Statute 656.245(3), Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 436-010-0300, and committee-developed criteria. If the committee determines that the surgical procedure is not unscientific, experimental, outmoded, or unproven, the committee may establish parameters of appropriateness for the procedure's use.

Attached is a spreadsheet of the information that the committee already has. If you would like to submit additional information to the committee, **you must submit it by August 31, 2006.** Send to:

Attn: Debra Buchanan, Medical Review Unit  
Medical Advisory Committee, Workers' Compensation Division  
350 Winter St. NE  
Salem, OR 97309-0405  
Fax: 503-947-7794

The Medical Advisory Committee's Web page can be found at [www.wcd.oregon.gov](http://www.wcd.oregon.gov) and click "Medical Advisory" in the left menu.

OAR 436-010-0300 and other Workers' Compensation Division rules can be found at [www.wcd.oregon.gov](http://www.wcd.oregon.gov) and click "Laws & rules" in the left menu.

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact Debra Buchanan at (503) 947-7734 or send e-mail to [debra.k.buchanan@state.or.us](mailto:debra.k.buchanan@state.or.us).

*/s/ Jerry Managhan for*

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John L. Shilts, Administrator  
Workers' Compensation Division

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