

# *State of South Carolina*

1333 Main Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 1715  
Columbia, S.C. 29202-1715



TEL: (803) 737-5700  
www.wcc.sc.gov

## *Workers' Compensation Commission*

February 18, 2016

The Honorable T. Scott Beck  
Chairman  
SC Workers' Compensation Commission  
1333 Main Street, Suite 500  
Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Chairman Beck:

On behalf of the Narcotics Use Advisory Committee (NUAC) I am pleased to present the committee's recommendations concerning the use of narcotics prescribed for patients receiving treatment as a result of a work-related injury.

The NUAC was created by the Commission in February 2014 with the charge of assessing whether or not the use of such medication for workers' compensation patients should be regulated, and, if so, recommend regulations or other administrative policies for the Commission to consider. As with other ad hoc advisory committees appointed by the Commission, the members of the NUAC represented a variety of diverse interests in the workers' compensation system and this specific issue. Enclosed is a list of the NUAC members.

The issue of narcotics and opioid use is not new. Previous efforts include Governor Haley's creation of the Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Council (PDAPC) in Executive Order No. 2014-22 in March 2014. The PDAPC was charged with developing a comprehensive state plan to combat and prevent drug abuse. The PDAPC presented its recommendations to Governor Haley on September 29, 2015. In November 2014 the Medical Board, the SC Board of Dentistry and the South Carolina Board of Nursing approved the Joint Revised Pain Management Guidelines (JRPM Guidelines). Representatives from these groups participated in the NUAC discussion. The results of these combined efforts were beneficial to efforts of NUAC.

NUAC met five times from July 2014 to December 2015. Members participated in person or by telephone conference call. As a result of the meeting on December 17, 2015, the enclosed list of recommendations was approved by the NUAC for your consideration.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Commissioner Susan Barden for her time and effort to attend the meetings and other members for their participation, honest and open discussion about the issues and their diligence for remaining committed to the cause during the time it took to arrive at a final product.

Respectfully Submitted,



Richard "Ric" Davis  
Chairman NUAC

# SCWCC Narcotics Use Advisory Committee

## Recommendations

February 22, 2016

1. The Commission support PDAP Council's efforts to introduce legislation to require mandatory registration for authorized prescribers of opioids in the state's prescription drug monitoring program (PMP/SCRIPTS).
2. The Commission require medical service providers of workers' compensation claimants comply with the educational requirements related to opioid and narcotics use established by the SC Medical Board and SC Department of Health and Environmental Control to include specialized training for individuals with prescriptive authority on the use of opioids and narcotics.
3. The Commission require medical service providers who treat workers' compensation patients comply with the standard of care and guidelines for the treatment of chronic and acute pain set forth in the South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners, Board of Dentistry's and Nursing Board's Joint Revised Pain Management Guidelines adopted in November 2014.
4. The Commission require medical service providers who treat workers' compensation claimants register and utilize the SC PMP/SCRIPTs program.
5. The extent possible under the Commission's statutory and regulatory authority, allow insurance carriers and prescription benefit managers access to SCRIPTS/PDMP.
6. The Commission exempt treatment of acute pain treatment from the guidelines or regulations. Acute pain is defined as the normal, predicted physiological response to an adverse chemical, thermal, or mechanical stimulus and is associated with surgery, trauma, and acute illness. It is generally time-limited (less than 90 days) and is responsive to opioid therapy, among other therapies. These guidelines would not apply to a physician who is primarily providing time-limited surgical services to relieve acute pain.

**Richard "Ric" Davis, Chairman**  
Christian and Davis Law, LLC  
1007 E. Washington Street  
PO Box 332  
Greenville, SC 29602  
864-232-7363  
[rdavis@christiananddavis.com](mailto:rdavis@christiananddavis.com)

**The Honorable Susan S. Barden,**  
**Commissioner**  
SC Workers' Compensation Commission  
1333 Main Street, Suite 500  
PO Box 1715  
Columbia, SC 29202  
803-737-5660  
[klove@wcc.sc.gov](mailto:klove@wcc.sc.gov)

**Companion Property & Casualty Group**  
Joe Suarez, WC Claims Manager  
51 Clemson Road  
P.O. Box 100165  
Columbia, SC 29202  
803-264-3406  
800-845-2724 ext 43406  
803-865-3150 – Fax  
[Joe.suarez@companiongroup.com](mailto:Joe.suarez@companiongroup.com)

**MyMatrixx**  
Wendy Sumrell, Regional Sales Manager  
5706 Benjamin Center Drive, Ste. 103  
Tampa, FL 33634  
770-597-4277 (mobile)  
813-868-1942 (fax)  
[wsumrell@mymatrixx.com](mailto:wsumrell@mymatrixx.com)

Alan Rook, PharmD  
Clinical Pharmacist  
5706 Benjamin Center Drive, Ste. 103  
Tampa, FL 33634  
813-425-9662 ext 4567  
813-309-4751 (mobile)  
[arook@mymatrixx.com](mailto:arook@mymatrixx.com)

**Paradigm Outcomes**  
Steven Moskowitz, MD  
1227 Treat Blvd. #800  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
617-566-0291  
925-330-7258 (mobile)  
[Steven.moskowitz@paradigmcorp.com](mailto:Steven.moskowitz@paradigmcorp.com)

(alt): Lisa E. Ulrich, Dir., Technical Sales  
1227 Treat Blvd. #800  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
925-348-6952  
[Lisa.ulrich@paradigmcorp.com](mailto:Lisa.ulrich@paradigmcorp.com)

**S.C. Association of Counties**  
John K. Deloache, Staff Attorney  
1919 Thurmond Mall  
P.O. Box 8207  
Columbia, SC 29202-8207  
803-252-7255 ext 324  
800-922-6081  
803-252-0379 (fax)  
[ideloache@scac.sc](mailto:ideloache@scac.sc)

**DHEC—Drug Control Bureau**  
Lisa Thomson, Coastal District Director  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201-1708  
803-896-1959  
[thomsla@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:thomsla@dhec.sc.gov)

**Travelers**  
Kathi Chisom, Case Mgr Supervisor  
P.O. Box 473502  
Charlotte, NC 28243  
704-540-3109  
[kchisom@travelers.com](mailto:kchisom@travelers.com)

**Sedgwick**  
Tara Reese, Workers' Compensation  
Adjuster  
[tara.bublitz@sedgwickcms.com](mailto:tara.bublitz@sedgwickcms.com)

**Pain Specialists of Charleston, PA**  
Dr. Edward Tavel  
Attn: Erica DeGroff, Marketing,  
Communications & Business Development  
Director  
2695 Elms Plantation Blvd – Suite A  
Charleston, SC 29406  
843-818-1181 ext 302  
[edegroff@painchas.com](mailto:edegroff@painchas.com)

**SC Chamber of Commerce**  
Jeff Helton  
1111 Honda Way  
Timmonsville, SC 29161  
843-346-8004  
[Jeff\\_Helton@hsc.honda.com](mailto:Jeff_Helton@hsc.honda.com)

**Municipal Association of South Carolina**  
Heather Ricard, Director  
Risk Management Services  
PO Box 12109  
1411 Gervais Street  
Columbia, SC 29211  
803-933-1258  
[hricard@masc.sc](mailto:hricard@masc.sc)

**PHT Services, Ltd./Palmetto Hospital  
Trust**  
Brian Teusink, president & CEO  
PHT Services, Ltd.  
250 Berryhill Road  
Converse Building, Suite 402  
Columbia SC 29210  
803-731-5300 ext 1511  
[bteusink@phts.com](mailto:bteusink@phts.com)

**SC Small Business Chamber of  
Commerce**  
Frank Knapp, Jr., President & CEO  
1717 Gervais Street  
Columbia SC 29201  
803-252-5733  
[sbchamber@scsbc.org](mailto:sbchamber@scsbc.org)

**S.C. Self-Insurers Association**  
Tosca Walls, President  
c/o Moby Salahuddin, Executive Director  
215 Holly Ridge Lane  
West Columbia, SC 29169  
800-845-2724 ext 46780  
[Tosca.walls@companiongroup.com](mailto:Tosca.walls@companiongroup.com)

**Key Risk Management Services**  
Mary Jacobs, Clinical Supervisor  
PO Box 49129  
Greensboro, NC 27419  
800-942-0225 ext. 3385248  
[mjacobs@berkleymms.com](mailto:mjacobs@berkleymms.com)

**Property Casualty Insurers Association**  
Oyango A. Snell, State Gov't Relations  
Counsel  
444 N Capitol St., NW, Suite 801  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-603-9660  
[Oyango.snell@pciaa.net](mailto:Oyango.snell@pciaa.net)

**Anesthesiologist Association**  
Andrew E. Geer, III, MD  
Interventional Pain Management  
Pain Associates of Charleston  
125 Doughty St., Suite 420  
Charleston, SC 29403  
843-723-3441  
St. Francis Hospital  
Charleston, SC  
[ageermd@gmail.com](mailto:ageermd@gmail.com)

Ezra Riber, MD  
SC Society of Anesthesiologists  
[sc99fan@aol.com](mailto:sc99fan@aol.com)

(alt): Margarita Pate, PhD  
PO Box 20189  
Charleston, SC 29413  
843-697-3114  
[mpscса@gmail.com](mailto:mpscса@gmail.com)

**Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A.**  
Ms. Blakely L. Molitor  
40 Calhoun Street  
Charleston, SC 29401  
843-414-8101  
843-414-8070 (fax)  
[bmolitor@gwblawfirm.com](mailto:bmolitor@gwblawfirm.com)

**Injured Workers' Advocates Association**  
Gary Christmas, President  
Howell and Christmas, LLC  
PO Box 1896  
Mt Pleasant, SC 29465  
843-884-2007  
[gc@howellandchristmas.com](mailto:gc@howellandchristmas.com)

**Civil Justice Coalition**  
Earl Hunter, Executive Director  
PO Box 12586  
Columbia, SC 29211  
803-771-0008  
[ehunter@sccjc.org](mailto:ehunter@sccjc.org)

**SC Pharmacy Association**  
Craig Burrige, Executive Director  
1350 Browning Road  
Columbia, SC 29210  
803-354-9977  
[craig@scrx.org](mailto:craig@scrx.org)

**SC Manufacturers Alliance**  
Lewis Gossett  
1340 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
803-799-9695  
[gossett@myscma.com](mailto:gossett@myscma.com)

**State Accident Fund**  
Harry Gregory, Executive Director  
800 Dutch Square Blvd., Suite 160  
Columbia, SC 29210  
803-896-5409  
[hgregory@saf.sc.gov](mailto:hgregory@saf.sc.gov)

**South Carolina Medical Association**  
J.C. Nicholson, General Counsel  
PO Box 11188  
Columbia, SC 29211  
803-798-6207 ext 260  
[jcnicholson@scmedical.org](mailto:jcnicholson@scmedical.org)

**Derrick Williams, Esquire**  
Mickle and Bass  
PO Box 5639  
Columbia, SC 29250  
803-929-0029  
[dwilliams@mickleandbass.com](mailto:dwilliams@mickleandbass.com)

**Duke McCall Jr., Esquire**  
Smith Moore Leatherwood, LLP  
PO Box 87  
Greenville, SC 29602  
864-240-2403  
[Duke.mccall@smithmoorelaw.com](mailto:Duke.mccall@smithmoorelaw.com)

**Shannon Poteat, Esquire**  
Willson Jones Carter & Baxley, PA  
4500 Fort Jackson Blvd  
Columbia, SC 29209  
803-227-2883  
803-782-2524 (fax)  
[stpoteat@wjlaw.net](mailto:stpoteat@wjlaw.net)

**Andrew (Andy) Safran, Esquire**  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 12089  
Columbia, SC 29211  
803-256-6689  
[msa6631@aol.com](mailto:msa6631@aol.com)

**SC State Association of Occupational Health Nurses**  
Angela Day, BSN, RN, COHN-S  
Springfield, LLC  
1206 Cherokee Avenue  
Gaffney, SC 29340  
864-487-2448  
[Angela.day@springfieldllc.com](mailto:Angela.day@springfieldllc.com)

**Ex Officio**  
**Bob Toomey,**  
S.C. Dept. of Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse  
Services (DAODAS)  
P.O. Box 8268  
Columbia, SC 29202  
803-546-0172  
[btoomey@daodas.sc.gov](mailto:btoomey@daodas.sc.gov)

**WCC Staff**

SC Workers' Compensation Commission  
1333 Main St., Suite 500 (29201)  
PO Box 1715  
Columbia, SC 29202-1715

Gary Cannon, Executive Director  
803-737-5726  
[gcannon@wcc.sc.gov](mailto:gcannon@wcc.sc.gov)

Grant Duffield  
Insurance & Medical Services Director  
803-737-5718  
[gduffield@wcc.sc.gov](mailto:gduffield@wcc.sc.gov)

Keith Roberts  
SCWCC Legal Counsel  
803-737-5701  
[keroberts@wcc.sc.gov](mailto:keroberts@wcc.sc.gov)