NCRB-NCRF-NCIGA

north carolina
RATE BUREAU
REINSURANCE FACILITY
INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION

North Carolina Rate Bureau

December 17, 2019

CIRCULAR LETTER TO ALL MEMBER COMPANIES

Re: Workers Compensation Insurance

CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks for North Carolina, 20th Edition

The North Carolina Rate Bureau is pleased to inform you that the CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks for North Carolina, 20th Edition has been released by the Workers Compensation Research Institute (WCRI). This study continues to monitor the results of recent policy changes in North Carolina, particularly medical reimbursement rules that became effective in 2015 and interim fee schedule changes in 2013. Medical payments per claim, prices, and utilization of medical care for injured workers in North Carolina are compared to 17 other states. It is a summary of current costs and historic trends for policymakers and other system stakeholders, reporting how medical payments per claim and cost components vary over time.

The results reported in this study examine how metrics of medical costs and care have changed from 2012 to 2017 for claims up to 36 months of experience. The study reflects the 2015 medical fee schedule rules for North Carolina requiring reimbursement for medical care based on a percentage of Medicare. Phased–in decreases in reimbursement for hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers (ASC's) went into effect in April 2015, while changes in reimbursement for professional services became effective in July 2015. Therefore, the results reflect the majority of the impact of the fee schedule changes.

An executive summary of the report is available at:
https://www.wcrinet.org/reports/compscope-medical-benchmarks-for-north-carolina-20th-edition

For assistance with ordering the report, please contact WCRI at 617-661-9274 or via email at wcri@wcrinet.org.

We trust that this report will provide additional insight into the workers compensation cost drivers in North Carolina.

If you have questions, contact the NCRB Information Center at 919-582-1056 or via email at support@ncrb.org.

Sincerely,

Joanna Biliouris

Chief Operating Officer

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C-19-17