





The New Colleague Refresher Program (NCRP) is an 8-week series designed for claim handlers who are new to Sedgwick, colleagues with limited industry experience, or veteran Sedgwick colleagues who may struggle with areas of quality.

For more information about the NCRP, please refer to the official NCRP site: <a href="http://company.sedgwick.com/departments/performance360/td/Pages/NCRP.aspx">http://company.sedgwick.com/departments/performance360/td/Pages/NCRP.aspx</a>

Questions about the NCRP can be sent to the following email address: NCRP@sedgwick.com

This Electronic Book (E-Book) contains various resources that will be able to assist Sedgwick colleagues throughout the program and beyond.

Last updated: 9/4/2020





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## Week 1: Investigation

#### 3 Point Contacts:

- 1. Claimant/Employee/Injured Workers
- 2. Client
- 3. Medical Provider

#### What to ask:

- Past employment
- Concurrent (other) employment during previous year
- Any/all prior & current health issues
- Who, what, where, why, when, & how
- Anyone else involved in the event?
- Witnesses?
- Claimant first & last name, DOB, gender, & SSN = Need to confirm the 5 MMSEA items
- Spell out the client's statement don't just assume the facts reported are accurate

### Deep Thinking Required:

- Does everything correlate & make sense?
- Information match FROIs, statements, & medical records?
- Is the treatment plan appropriate?

# Medical Providers – Ask every time about...

- Diagnosis
- Treatment plan
- Work status
- Work restrictions
- History of injury
- Next office visit



#### **Notable Timeframes**



Business day to complete initial verbal attempts for 3-point contacts



3 contact attempts within the first 5 business days

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#### Week 1 JURIS Tips

- Use the Investigation Screen for initial statements makes sure all required note types are addressed
- Avoid using n/a when documenting in JURIS provide value; spell out your work
- Use the correct note types to clarify appropriate parties' statements & info received

### **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 1**

**CM** = Claimant Contact

**CN** = Client Contact

MD= Medical Provider Contact / Document Medical Correspondences

**WT** = Witnesses

## **Available Notes Space for Week 1:**

1





## **Week 2: Compensability**

Once investigation has been completed, need to decide to either accept or deny the claim



If additional information is necessary to pursue in order to make a compensability decision, then schedule diaries to follow up accordingly

When making the compensability determination, need to consider:

- Timeliness
- Content

EV notes should contain clear rationale; do not use generic terms

Update the EV note if the claim changes (updated medical reports, video/photos, statements)

# **Notable Timeframes**



Calendar days to document compensability determination



#### Week 2 JURIS Tips

- Use the One JURIS Work Tasks tab to help monitor the number of claims / diaries that need to be worked on any particular day
- Block diaries can assist claim handlers who anticipate being out of the office or unavailable to handle their claims
- Use the available templates in JURIS to capture all required elements requested by clients, carriers, or Sedgwick best practices





## **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 2**

**EV** = Evaluation / Document rationale for compensability determination

**Available Notes Space for Week 2:** 





## **Week 3: Documentation & Coding**



All documentation is potentially discoverable

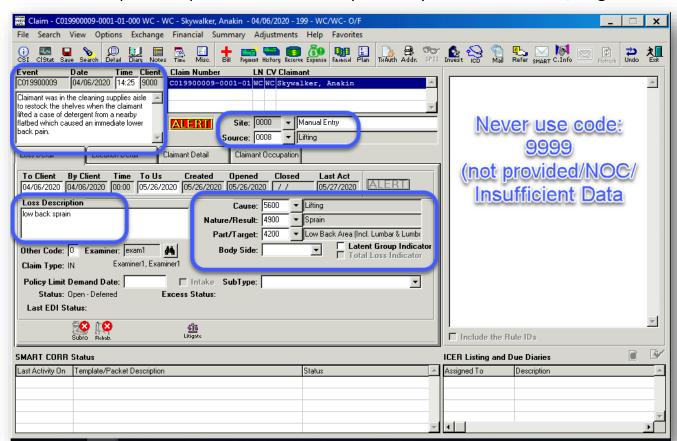
File documentation and coding must be updated throughout the life of every claim, every time

## Keep every claim...

- Professional
- Avoid abbreviations (outside of industry standards)
- · Complete thoughts, spell check, and proofread before saving the note

### Main coding areas in JURIS:

- Source Code located under the Claimant name
- Cause Code choose the best option
- Nature/Result Update as the claim evolves
- Part/Target The most injured site, if multiple body parts involved
- Loss Description Update to include accepted body sites & conditions/diagnosis



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## Sedgwick Managed Care (MC) Partners

- Internal colleagues
- Variety of MC Partners may become necessary to utilize their expertise in filtering what is truly medically necessary for workers' compensation claims

Sodawick Managod Caro		
Sedgwick Managed Care Partners	Role/Function	
(Internal Colleagues)		
,		
Telephonic Case	Completes phone calls to claimants & medical providers to	
Management (TCM)	promote recovery & Return-to-Work (RTW)	
Utilization Review (UR)	Nurses that review medical treatment requests that use evidence- based and state/federal guidelines to promote best outcomes and	
	help avoid duplicate/unnecessary treatment, & may send to Physician Advisors for treatment determination	
	Usually involve only 1-2 onsite visits to medical provider	
Field Case Management (FCM)	appointments with claimants; can also assist by completing phone calls	
Clinical Consultation (CC)	RNs who triage injuries at time of accident	
Prescription Drug Management	Comprises of 2 groups - Pharmacy UR Nurses for perform medication UR <u>before</u> the prescription is filled at a pharmacy and RNs who work telephonically <u>after</u> medications have been dispensed	
Return to Work Specialists (RTWS)	Colleagues that are nurses or have specialty education in vocational rehabilitation, with the focus of helping claimants "stay at work," if possible	
Behavior Health Specialists (BHS)	Assigned when there are psychosocial barriers to recovery, such as with post-traumatic stress disorder, relationship issues between injured claimant and other employees; if claimant is experiencing personal life issues such as divorce, addiction, etc.	
Surgery Nurse	RNs help claimant through surgery process	
Provider Benchmarking	Finds providers with best recover outcomes in claimant's locale by	
and Search	address, name, client, or panel card searches	





## Vendor Managed Care (MC) Partners

- External colleagues
- MC Partners may become necessary to utilize their expertise in filtering what is truly medically necessary for workers' compensation claims
- Sedgwick has contracts with vendor networks to provide:
  - Diagnostic services
  - Durable Medical Equipment
  - Language translators
  - o Independent Medical Examiners (IMEs) & Physician Advisors (PA) for 2<sup>nd</sup> Opinions
- Vendor field case management networks are available, if the client chooses to use someone other than Sedgwick for that type of service

#### Index matches should be...

- Documented; pursued appropriately
- Include in the Action Plan and set diaries accordingly
- If Index results indicate no impact on current claim, then document rationale

## **Notable Timeframes**



Business days to document new non-legal correspondences that come into SIR



Business day to document new legal correspondences that come into SIR

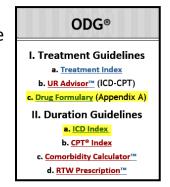
The Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) website is external from Sedgwick, but can help provide useful information for documentation purposes:

- Treatment Index Clarification if treatment plans are appropriate
- Drug Formulary Confirm prescribed medications are appropriate for diagnosis
- ICD Index Provider's RTW plan promote early safe RTW? (Disability days)
- ODG Reserving Calculator Help avoid stair-stepping by providing approx. claim costs





The ODG website can be accessed either from the ICD screen in JURIS or by the following website: http://odginternet.com/





#### Week 3 JURIS Tips

- Every time you open a claim, review the Main Claim Screen coding for accuracy
- Always address Index results received, whether results may impact current claim or not
   and document under appropriate note type
- Use the ODG website to assist with various treatment plans, document findings;
   establish diaries to follow up, as needed, for additional medical records

## **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 3**

IS = Documentation or rationale of Index results

**Available Notes Space for Week 3:** 





## **Week 4: Wage Calculation & Reserves**

Timely & accurate payments are critical to successful claims management

AWW calculations, based on most jurisdictions:

- Obtain claimant's gross earnings for the number of weeks required by law
- Divide the gross earnings by the number of weeks required by law
- Examples of jurisdictions require 52 weeks, 26 weeks, or 13 weeks prior to DOI

Calculation example for AWW:

Gross earnings: \$28,343

Number of weeks worked: 48

AWW = \$590.47



### Indemnity benefit types:

- Temporary Disability (TTD & TPD)
- Permanent Partial (PPD)
- Permanent Total (PTD)
- Death Benefits
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Other Indemnity

### Variables in Wage Calculations:

- Number of weeks considered
- Overtime
- Commissions
- Tax filing status

#### Jurisdictional Variances:

- Waiting Period
- Retroactive Period



#### Client Variances:

Salary Continuation

## Notification is important!

- 1<sup>st</sup> payment due no later than XX days after knowledge of injury and/or disability
- Subsequent payments every XX days
- Salary Continuation
- Sick Leave & Vacation Pay
- Benefits are not taxable





### **Avoid Overpayments with Proper Termination:**

- RTW
- MMI
- Lack of Medical Evidence
- Order from Industrial Board
- Pregnancy

- Seasonal Employment
- TTD after termination
- Incarceration
- Death

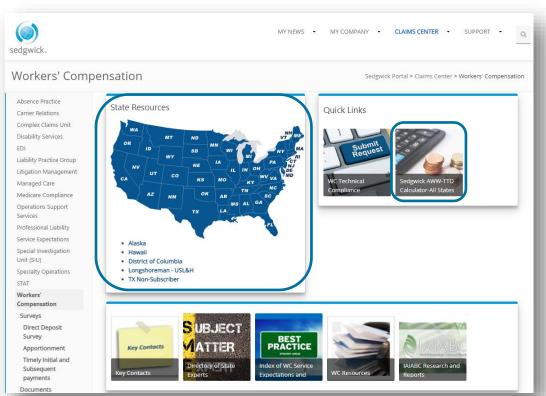
Stay organized & focused with indemnity benefits by using JURIS' various features:

- Time Tracking Location to document all work & benefit status (restrictions too)
- Work Status Screen Location to document AWW, TTD, TPD, PPD comp rates
- Diaries For following up on updated work status notes, medical records
- Notes Documenting the current treatment plan, benefits calculated, & work status

### Avoid Errors & Omissions (E&Os):

- Ask for assistance in jurisdictional competency
- Use JURIS Portal Workers' Compensation State Resources
- State Experts Located within the WC State Resources Portal

Consider using State
Resources for
jurisdictional
information or the
Sedgwick AWW-TTD
Calculator-All States
to calculate / confirm
WC benefits

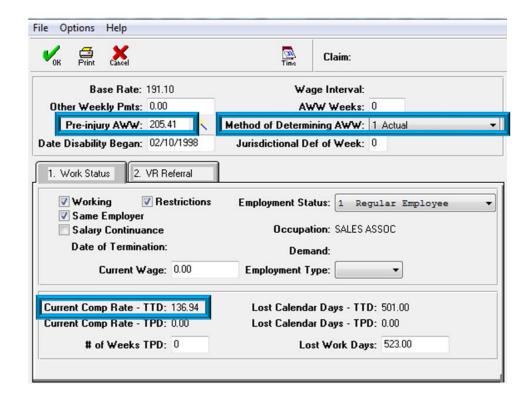


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# Example of a completed Work Status Screen



## Reserves should always:

- Utilize the Reserve Worksheet
- Use the Comments fields (Worksheet and Current Financial tabs)
- Documented information used to determine values
  - RTW options
  - ODG Reserve Calculator
  - Personal Medical Conditions, etc.
- Reserves should always be based on probable, ultimate exposure
  - Avoid excessive optimism

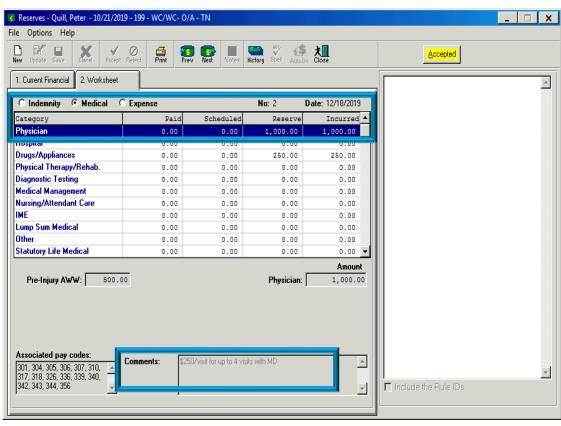
#### Time bombs in Reserving:

- **Under-reserving** Setting reserves below probable outcome could be result of not taking time to fully evaluate the claim's potential
- Over-reserving Focus on the details of the claim; don't add extra reserves "Just in case"
- **Stair-stepping** Changing reserves a multitude of times because the entire claim's status was not taken into consideration





Example of a completed Reserves comment



# **Notable Timeframes**



Business days from open & re-open date to provide initial reserves



Calendar days from open date to address current status of reserves



Review, revise, & post every 90 calendar days



## **Week 4 JURIS Tips**

- Take the time to calculate benefits based on jurisdictional and client needs
- Provide clear rationale in how reserve monies were determined; document accordingly
- Reserves can never be over-explained!

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### **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 4**

**BA** or **FN** = Benefit Approval (BA) or Financial (FN) notes used to show wage calculations **RS** = Documentation or rationale of reserves – RS notes are automatically created upon entering in reserves from the Reserve worksheet & saved to the claim

**Available Notes Space for Week 4:** 

#### \_\_\_





## **Week 5: Tracking & Payments**

Time Tracking should reflect the correct work & benefit status throughout the life of a claim If restrictions are provided, they must also be updated in Time Tracking

### Golden Rules of Time Tracking:

- No gaps in dates from DOI until claim is closed
- Dates cannot overlap
- For every work status, there must be a benefit status

### Time Tracking Prerequisites:

- Updated claim status from Pending/Deferred
- Claim well documented
- Correct ICD code(s) used
- Appropriately reserved, if payments needed



## Work Status – 5 Categories:

- 1. Normal Claimant working full days, no restrictions/modifications
- 2. Off Work Claimant is not performing any work duties for the entire day
- 3. **Restricted** Claimant is working modified or restricted duties for less time than normally scheduled, or earning less pay than pre-injury
- 4. **Restricted NTL** (No Time Lost) Claimant is working normal schedule with modified or restricted duties only (no indemnity exposure, no reduction in earned pay)
- 5. **Terminated** Claimant is no longer employed by the client/employer
  - a. Note: If the terminated claimant is still due benefits after the termination date, the Terminated work status is payable

Benefit Status must always be completed after a Work Status (Exception: Normal work status)

When reviewing the Restriction Entry screen, need to confirm:

- Dates when restrictions are effective
- If (and when) can the client accommodate the restrictions







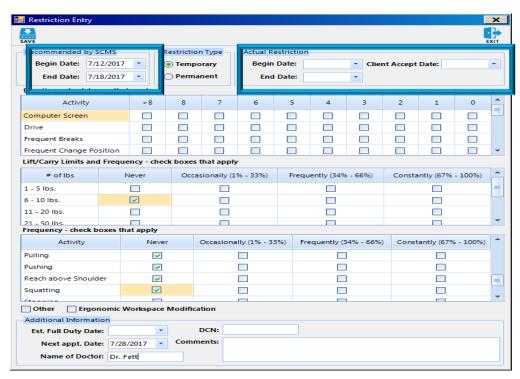
Example of Restriction Entry screen

### **Recommended by SCMS**:

<u>Always</u> complete the Begin & End dates, based on restrictions received

#### **Actual Restriction:**

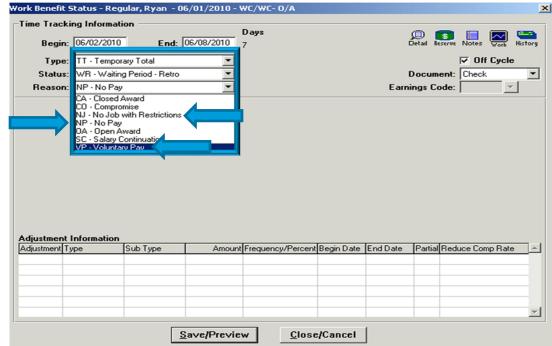
<u>Only</u> complete if/when the client can accommodate all restrictions



When addressing indemnity benefits from Time Tracking, select the appropriate Reason: 3 most common Reasons:

- 1. Voluntary Pay Agreeing to make payments for selected time period
- 2. No Pay Not making any payments for selected time period
- 3. **No Job with Restrictions** Only making payments due to client unable to accommodate restrictions 

  Work Benefit Status Regular, Ryan 06/01/2010 WC/WC- 0/A









Notable Timeframes



Calendar days to issue initial indemnity payments, or sooner if required by jurisdiction



Calendar days benefits must be paid from onset of disability, or sooner if required by state statute



Work Status, Benefits Status, & Restrictions should be updated within 5 business days from knowledge of any work or benefit status changes



## **Week 5 JURIS Tips**



- Including the calculated benefit amounts in the Work Status screen will save time when paying benefits in Time Tracking
- All restrictions must be documented in Time Tracking
- Avoid overpayments from issuing payments by ensuring appropriate follow-up diaries are in place

# **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 5**

**WK** = Work Status Note auto-populates after entering an updated work status in Time Tracking

RE = Restrictions Note auto-populates after entering updated restrictions in Time Tracking

# **Available Notes Space for Week 5:**





### Week 6: Action Plans & SIR Overview

Action Plans should reflect our work product for anyone who reviews a claim

Action Plan content should include:

- Identify & document issues requiring resolution
- Include a detailed plan
- Identify goals
- Outline meaningful activities to achieve goals
- Provide timeline for completion



Templates for Action Plans are highly recommended to help capture all required fields necessary for a complete Action Plan, which can be in 2 areas:

- 1. Notes Screen
- 2. Investigation Screen

There are various sections to an Action Plan template:

- **Summary** Key claim events to-date
- Goal Goal for this claim during the next 90 days
- Strategy Numbered-point, specific activities to be undertaken to achieve the goal
- ICD List the proper code for each diagnosis; if accepted or denied
- ODG Official Disability Guidelines regarding specific diagnosis; condition
- Resolution Anticipated long-term claim resolution



**SIR** = Stored Informational Retrieval

SIR is paperless documentation system for scanning, storage, & retrieval of document images

SIR can be used for the following:

- Review correspondences related to claims
- Document the information into JURIS notes
- Ensure all info is accurate, updated

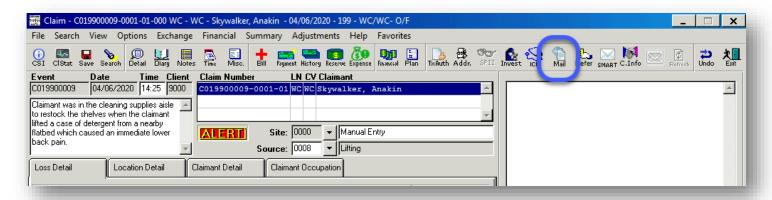
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#### Access SIR from either...

- One JURIS Main Menu Home tab (Green Mail Icon button) Main SIR page
- Main Claim Screen Top toolbar (Mail button, upper-right hand side) Case View



Every correspondence received in SIR will be assigned a unique DCN **DCN** = Document Control Number

**Drop File** = Placing documents into SIR via email

There are a variety of options in sending documents from email directly into SIR

<u>Drop File SIR Emails</u>	<u>Mail</u> Status	<u>Doc Type</u>	<u>Color</u>
	<u> Status</u>		
dropfile@acssedgwickcms.com	Read	Email	No
unreaddropfile@acssedgwickcms.com	Unread	Email	No
unreadcolordropfile@acssedgwickcms.com	Unread	Email	Yes
colordropfile@acssedgwickcms.com	Read	Email	Yes
dropfileclaimcorrespondence@acssedgwickcms.com	Read	Claim Corresp	No
dropfileinvestigation@acssedgwickcms.com	Read	Investigation	No
dropfilelegal@acssedgwickcms.com	Read	Legal	No
dropfilemedicalvocational@acssedgwickcms.com	Read	Medical/Voc	No

**Subject Line** – The description on the email can be sent within the forwarded email. The subject line should still include only the claim number, but the note subject can be added.

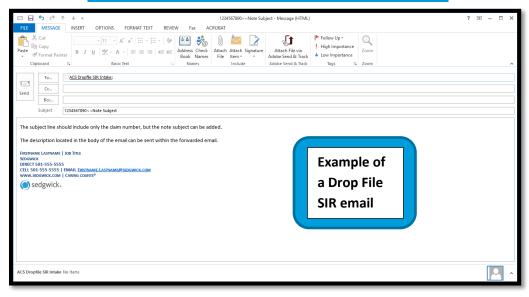
Type in the claim number and 2 tilde signs (~~) in the subject line with no spaces between them. Type in the note subject following the tilde signs and send the email to SIR.

NOTE: The tilde sign (~) is located above the TAB key on a keyboard

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## **Notable Timeframes**

Calendar days to provide initial Action Plan from claim open date on new or converted claims



Business days from date claim reopened to add the Action Plan



Business days to document new non-legal correspondences that come into SIR



Business day to document new legal correspondences that come into SIR



## **Week 6 JURIS Tips**

- Use the Action Plan templates available in JURIS to address all required components
- Provide clearer steps in establishing Action Plan goals don't just say "close claim"
- Document SIR correspondences in SIR; use the ability to copy SIR note into JURIS

# Review JURIS Note Types from Week 6

# AP = Action Plans, used to provide direction in the current status & handling of the claim Sedgwick Copyright © 2020 The information contained herein is confidential and proprietary to Sedgwick. It is being provided in order





## **Available Notes Space for Week 6:**

# **Return to Table of Contents**

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### Week 7: JURIS Overview

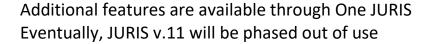
JURIS = James Unified Risk Information System

JURIS is a proprietary system developed and maintained by Sedgwick for managing multiple lines of claims

Documentation in JURIS is critical – "If it's not documented, it didn't happen."

There are 2 variations to JURIS:

- 1. One JURIS
- 2. JURIS, version 11









#### Week 7 JURIS Tips

- Always document work completed on any claim
- Complete diaries & schedule new ones to continue to remain active in claim handling
- Click the Refresh button at least twice per day, to know if any new claims or diaries have been assigned since the JURIS application was originally opened







### **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 7**

**LG** = Litigation/legal activity on the claim; defense attorney discussions

**XS** = Excess coverage clarification; updated excess status

**CG** = Coverage status; if any changes to coverage occur

**SR** = Supervisor notes; may contain additional directives for claim handler to complete

## **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 7**

**SMART** = Feature used to create "hello" letters, call-back request letters, & certain state forms **Bill/Pend** = Feature to either review pending bills for a claim or review final bill review decisions

**Time Tracking** = Preferred method to issue indemnity benefits; documenting restrictions **Alert** = Feature that acts as a 'sticky note' for a claim; can be used for event, claim, & claimant **Vendor Referrals** = Feature that allows assignment of Utilization Review, IMEs, & SIU services **Plan** = Feature that provides the claim's SIR/Deductible; excess carrier name & limits **Text Search** = Feature in the Notes screen that allows filtering of letters or words within all notes for a claim

**Available Notes Space for Week 7:** 

24





## **Week 8: P360 Audit Overview**

Overall compliance audit goal = 90% or better

### **Compass.net** is used for auditing purposes:

- Auditors will evaluate colleagues' pending; randomly pull 3 claims to review
- Examiners and Team Leads are given an opportunity to review audits
- Allows for rebuttal process

### Audit compose of 3 separate scores:

- 1. File Score The entire claim's score
- CE Score The currently assigned claim handler's score
- 3. Supervisor (TL) Score

Audits are also composed into 3 Tiers:

- 1. Tier I
- 2. Tier II
- 3. Tier III

Claims are categorized into Tiers depending on how long they have been opened

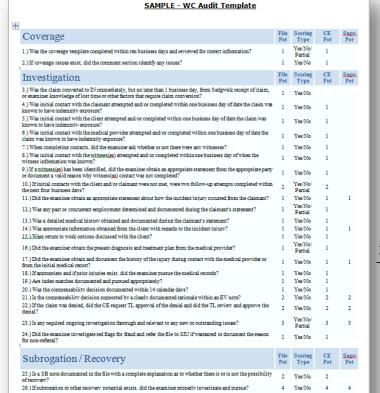
The *Investigation* is especially important for Audit purposes because it's the first category

And has the most questions on the P360 compliance audit compared to any other category

P360 auditors will look to confirm when a claim is reviewed for denial (full or partial) – to confirm TL/Supervisor approved the denial

2 Components to Action Plans, Reserves, & Compensability decisions that are reviewed in a P360 compliance audit:

- 1. Timeliness Ensuring actions are taken in an appropriate rate
- 2. Content The value of the information documented







Supervisors are accountable for providing timely reviews to assist claim handlers with meaningful guidance – Claim handlers are expected to comply with all supervisor directives

## **Notable Timeframes**



Business days from claim conversion to address subrogation or recovery potential



Thoroughly review new litigation within 1 business day



Business days from when claim handler receives notification of a new audit to review the audited claim & provide rebuttals, if needed



### **Week 8 JURIS Tips**

- Avoid using "n/a" when completing the initial investigation required note types
- Provide value to documentation in JURIS & SIR
- If any questions or audit results appear unclear, then consult with your Team Lead or auditor to provide clarification

## **Review JURIS Note Types from Week 8**

**SR** = Supervisor notes; may contain additional directives for claim handler to complete

# **Available Notes Space for Week 8:**





### Index

## **Guides**

JURIS Guide	2020 JURIS Guide - WC
SIR Guide	2020 SIR Guide

**Sedgwick On Demand Series** 

Jedgwick On Demand Jenes	
SMART Correspondences	On Demand Series: SMART Correspondences
Reserves	On Demand Series: Reserves, Part 1 of 3
	On Demand Series: Reserves, Part 2 of 3
	On Demand Series: Reserves, Part 3 of 3
Time Tracking (Medical	On Demand Series: Time Tracking (Medical Only), Part 1 of 3
Only)	
	On Demand Series: Time Tracking (Medical Only), Part 2 of 3
	On Demand Series: Time Tracking (Medical Only), Part 3 of 3
Time Tracking (Indemnity)	On Demand Series: Time Tracking (Indemnity), Part 1 of 3
	On Demand Series: Time Tracking (Indemnity), Part 2 of 3
	On Demand Series: Time Tracking (Indemnity), Part 3 of 3
JURIS	JURIS Tips - WC
WebEx	<u>Let's Break to Educate - WebEx Basics</u>

**Additional Resources (Sedgwick & External)** 

Additional Sedgwick	Sedgwick Service Expectations
Resources	
	Sedgwick University Main Page
	Performance 360 (website)
	New Claim Checklist
	Workers' Comp Practice Site
	<u>Citrix Access - JURIS Demo Environment</u>
Additional External	Electronic Forecaster Wheel (Date Wheel)
Resources	
	Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) & ODG Reserve
	<u>Calculator</u>