



Maryland Workers' Compensation Fee Schedule (Montgomery Cty., Md. Cir. Ct.)

Topics Covered: Payment Issues (for Physicians), Workers' Compensation

Outcome: Very Unfavorable

Issue

The issue in this case was whether the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission ("WCC") should award payment for medical services according to the fee schedule established in the Maryland Medical Fee Guide, or whether and under what circumstances it had discretion to pay according to a lower rate if the health care provider had agreed to accept the lower rate under a managed care contract.

AMA Interest

The AMA supports fair policies and practices regarding payment for physician services.

Case Summary

Two claims, adjudicated by the WCC with apparently conflicting results, were appealed to the Maryland Circuit Court. The physicians argued that the WCC should have required that the health care providers be awarded the amount specified in the Maryland Medical Fee Guide fee schedule. However, the court entered summary judgment against the physicians on both claims.

Litigation Center Involvement

The case was supported by MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society, and by several groups of Maryland physicians. The Litigation Center also contributed to the defraying of these expenses.