

Your Right to Choose Your Doctor

OWCP ☆ **Office of Workers' Compensation Programs**

FECA ☆ **Federal Employees' Compensation Act**

Only You Get to Select Your Physician for Treatment and OWCP Forms & Reports

- If you are injured, **You**, not your employer, select your treating physician.
 - **It can be any doctor from anywhere in the USA!**
 - OWCP pays up to 100 miles for travel.
 - OWCP provides for Unlimited Treatment for Your Lifetime!
 - Only your doctor determines your Work Restrictions & Temporary Total Disability (TTD).
- You can change your treating physician by writing to OWCP requesting a change.
 - Provide doctor's name and address and the reasons for the change, i.e. "My doctor retired". "My doctor will not see injured federal patients", etc.
 - You do not have to request a change if your treating doctor sends you to another physician for surgery. OWCP automatically assigns the surgeon as your new treating doctor. When the surgeon releases you, your chosen doctor automatically is again your treating doctor.

Schedule Award Impairment Ratings Medical Rationale Causation Reports

- You can choose any doctor to provide your impairment ratings and causation reports.
 - OWCP pre-approves and pays for your Schedule Award impairment ratings.
- Few physicians are trained in Schedule Award impairment ratings utilizing the American Medical Association's, *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*, 6th Edition.
- Federal employees have difficulty getting their injury claims accepted by OWCP.
 - Few doctors are familiar with OWCP regulations and procedures.
 - Few doctors are familiar with the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA).

OWCP Can Send You for Second Opinion Exams

- Employers can send you for emergency treatment.
 - If you continue with the employer's doctor, then you have chosen your treating doctor.
 - You can always request a change of your treating doctor.
- OWCP can send you to be examined by their selected second opinion physician.
 - Be sure to keep the appointment or OWCP could stop your treatment or payments.
 - Your doctor can agree or disagree with the second opinion doctor.
 - *Only your treating doctor's opinion counts!*



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