

Pre-Designated Physician Form – FAQs

1. Do I have to fill this out?

No – this is purely voluntary

2. What happens if I don't fill it out?

If you do not fill out the pre-designation form and are injured on the job, you will treat with one of the physicians the County is contracted with to provide occupational medicine services. Currently we contract with Kaiser and MedClinic.

3. I am a Kaiser member. Can I simply designate "Kaiser"?

No – you must designate your previously chosen or assigned primary care physician.

4. My primary care physician does not treat workers' comp patients. What do I do?

The only physician who can be legally designated is the physician previously designated as their primary care physician through their group medical coverage. If their personal physician does not treat workers' comp patients then they default to one of our occupational medical providers – we currently use Kaiser and MedClinic.

5. Can I pre-designate a chiropractor or acupuncturist?

No the law is specific that it must be a physician or surgeon.

6. I just changed medical groups or physicians, and have not even seen my new doctor yet. Can I still pre-designate him?

Yes – you should have your new physician sign the form.

7. Will a faxed copy suffice?

Yes – once your doctor signs the form he can fax it to you and we will accept that in our office.

8. What if I forget who I designate?

The Workers Comp Office will have all information in a confidential database, and will have the physical forms on file.

9. What if I change physicians next year?

The form is available on-line on the HR website. Simply have your new physician sign the form, send it to us, and we will update our database with your information.

10. What if there is an emergency situation and my physician can't see me?

If the injury is life-threatening a phone call should be made to 911. If the injury needs to be treated immediately, but does not rise to the level of a 911 call, or is after hours, you can treat at the emergency room, preferably Kaiser, or Mercy Hospitals, since those are who we are contracted with. If the injury is not life-threatening, and does not need imminent treatment then you can seek treatment at one of our occupational medicine providers – Kaiser or MedClinic.