



International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals



and the
present...

The 11th WCCP/IARP South Florida W/C Claims Conference

Thursday, November 5th, 2009
Ft. Lauderdale Marriott North
6650 N. Andrews Ave., FL 33309
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(954) 771-0440

Agenda

- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. **Registration/Continental Breakfast** 8:30 - 8:45 a.m. **Welcome/Introductions**
- 8:45 - 10:30 a.m. **Managing the Inappropriate Use of Narcotics in Treatment of Occupational Injuries (2 Hrs Optional)**
The escalating use of narcotics in the treatment of occupational injury has become the greatest single financial threat to workers' compensation of this decade. In this high-level workshop, a nationally-known scientist and pharmaceutical expert will present meaningful research findings and practical strategies for controlling the mismanagement of these out-of-control costs. *Speaker: Frank Fornari, PhD, Dominion Diagnostics*
- 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. **Sponsored Break**
- 11:00 - 12:00 p.m. **Advances in Laser Spine Surgery (1 Hr Optional)**
Thanks to modern medical science and technology, traditional spinal surgery is slowly giving way to less invasive procedures that have more positive outcomes, leave barely perceptible incisions, involve shorter hospital stays, and, in the long run, cost much less. In this workshop you will be introduced to some of newest procedures to hit the operating room, their benefits, and the some of the challenges involved in securing their acceptance by the industry. *Speaker: Craig Burns, DO, Laser Spine Institute, Inc.*
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. **Sponsored Lunch**
- 1:00 - 1:50 p.m. **The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis: Reality or Pipe Dream? (1 Hr Optional)**
Will there ever be cure for paralysis? If Marc Buoniconti has anything to say about it..."YES". Hear his riveting and deeply personal story, from the day he sustained a broken neck playing football for the Citadel in 1985 , to his ongoing and relentless efforts to raise funds for spinal cord research. Marc's no-holds barred, rough and tumble life has been an inspiration for thousands, and now he brings his vision to you! Won't you join him? (*Speaker: Marc Buoniconti*).
- 2:00 - 2:50 p.m. **Florida Bar Workshop: Emerging Issues in Exposure and Employability (1 Hr Law)**
In early September one our nation's largest cities received over 100 claims for flu/swine flu exposure under both traditional work comp and, alternatively, the police and firefighter presumption laws, along with nearly \$50,000 in initial treatment for flu prevention. Compensable? Plus...the realities of today's weakened economy are straining defenses against PTD as employability gives way to placeability. Despite the 2003 amendments, real world influences are casting *HUGE* elements of complexity into defense against PTD claims. This workshop will increase your awareness of these emerging exposures, and the issues you must consider in your decision whether to stand and fight...or seek compromise. *Speakers: Keith Pallo & Shawna Andres, Pallo, Marks, Hernandez, Gechijian & DeMay, P.A.*
- 2:50 - 3:10 p.m. **Holiday Break and Door Prizes**
- 3:10 - 4:00 p.m. **Florida Bar Workshop: The Top Ten Cases of 2010: A Case Law Update (1 Hr Law)**
The 1st DCA has been busy this year, and it has issued a host of important decisions that affect the delivery of medical benefits, the impact of vocational capacity and employability, and the heart and hypertension crisis affecting municipalities. To finish off our program and spring into the Holiday season, one of Florida's finest attorneys gives a David Letterman style update of this year's most significant decisions. *Speaker: Steve Kronenberg of Kelley Kronenberg, Gilmartin, Fichtel & Wander, P.A..*
- 4:00 p.m. **Closing Comments & Adjournment**