

## ReedGroup ACOEM Position Paper on State Adoption of Drug Formularies

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It is critically important to combine a model drug formulary with clinical practice guidelines.

- Much of the failure of drug therapy over the past decade has been due to lack of consideration of all of the factors that go into effective treatment, rather than simply over-prescribing, under-prescribing or choosing the "wrong drug."
- The task we seek to accomplish by integrating the model drug formulary with clinical practice guidelines is to produce a framework that ensures, to the extent reasonably possible, the best treatment outcomes, whether the treatment is a prescribed drug, a medical intervention, or a combination of both."
- We believe the best solution is to create an *integrated medical treatment framework* that includes both drug therapies and other treatment interventions supported by an evidence-based assessment of options which have been proven most effective.

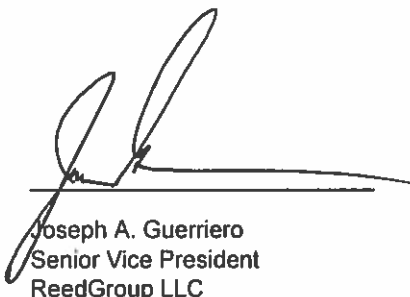
Drug Formularies have much in common with Clinical Practice Guidelines. Both should:

- 1) Rely on evidence-based criteria to determine options.
- 2) Help to protect workers from over, under, or otherwise inappropriate treatment, focusing on the most effective options.
- 3) Serve as an analytical framework providing the primary source of guidance for clinicians and physician reviewers when treating ill and injured individuals.
- 4) Enable streamlined approval of treatment/prescription requests, as the presumptively correct first-level standard for appropriate care.
- 5) Be supported by processes that ensure consistent, transparent updates.
- 6) Be easily understood and used by treating physicians and other stakeholders in the claims process.


Based on the considerations outlined above, we strongly recommend that NCOIL choose a national model consisting of a drug formulary and clinical practice guidelines. Considerable, successful work utilizing this approach has already been done in California.

While the end product might look different, we encourage NCOIL to use California's integrated formulary/guideline framework as a launching point to help produce the type of outcomes that would serve as a model for the nation.


This position is respectfully submitted by the following stakeholders:



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