

## Workers Compensation and Injury Management Bill 2021 (Consultation Draft)

### Submission Template

Bill Clause	Comments
<p><b>Treating medical practitioners and certificates of capacity cl.169-171</b></p>	<p>Provision for <b>allied</b> health professionals, other than the worker's treating medical practitioner, to issue <b>progress</b> certificates in prescribed circumstances <b>to provide functional updates only</b> – likely to be limited to minor or short duration lost time claims or in remote or regional areas where <b>telehealth is not available, and</b> workers <b>do</b> not have access to their treating medical practitioner.</p> <p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit certificates to progress certificates to minimise the risk of first certificate of capacities when a clear diagnosis or event can not be identified by the allied health practitioner.</li> <li>• Provide functional updates only to minimise the risk of referral for unnecessary treatment.</li> <li>• Telehealth should be a first option, or allied health professional to telehealth medical practitioner with the patient present to provide a link and consistency of certificates/claim direction.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Consent authority cl.34</b></p>	<p>Legislative authority for the collection and disclosure of relevant information about a worker when a worker makes a claim.</p> <p>Authority cannot be revoked.</p> <p><b>Information regarding a worker's medical history including WorkCover medical certificates to be accessible to all treating allied health professionals upon request.</b></p> <p>Regulations may provide for the form and manner of collection and disclosure and any limitations on relevant information about a worker permitted to be collected and disclosed.</p> <p><b>Comments:</b></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When seeking medical documents, information should be easily attained from treating medical practitioner once referral received for allied health services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Return to work and suitable employment cl.5, 165</b></p>	<p>It also includes the position the worker was employed in before becoming incapacitated but with a modified range of duties, working days or hours.</p> <p><b>Do they require a permanent impairment assessment to be moved to an alternative position?</b></p> <p><b>Is the employer obliged to find/create a modified job role?</b></p> <p><b>Comments:</b> What will this look like on medical certificates/functional capacity requirements?</p>