

Medical Standards Working Group Report

**Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Meeting
March 18, 2010**

Medical Standards Working Group Report

Tasks:

Task 06–03 Medical Standards for Safety-Critical Personnel

Task 09-02 Critical Incident Response

WG Report: Medical Standards Task 06-03

Milestones: Dec 2006 - Apr 2008 (10 WG & 15 TF meetings held)

- ✓ Tentative agreement was achieved on some of the general overarching rule text
- ✓ Consensus was not achieved on key sections of draft rule text (e.g., FFD exams/assessments, medications, & dispute resolution)
- ✓ FRA announced (Apr 2008) it would draft text for these key sections & then reconvene the WG to discuss and build consensus.
- ✓ TF tasked (Apr 2008) to develop medical criteria & protocols

WG Report: Medical Standards Task 06-03

Milestones: (On December 8-9, 2009 the WG was reconvened)

FRA presented the following deliverables to the WG:

- ✓ draft text for sections of the proposed rule the WG had not been able to agree upon,
- ✓ a draft Model Form for employees to report significant medical conditions and events, including medications,
- ✓ a draft medications guidance document for safety-critical personnel.

WG Report: Medical Standards Task 06-03

Milestones: December 8-9, 2009 WG Meeting

Physicians TF Report: (8 TF meetings/calls held since April 2008)

✓ TF completed its task to develop medical criteria & protocols for the following conditions which were presented to the WG:

- Sleep apnea & narcolepsy
- Cardiovascular
- Diabetes
- Seizures
- Hearing Impairments
- Vision Impairments
- Stroke & Neurological
- Vestibular Dysfunction
- Syncope
- Chronic Liver Disease
- Medical Situations Not Otherwise Addressed

WG Report: Medical Standards Task 06-03

Milestones: WG meetings held Feb 16-17 & March 11-12, 2010

- ✓ Progress made on Appendix D to the draft rule: Reporting of significant medical conditions & events, including medications. (Technical support provided by Physicians TF)
- ✓ Progress made on a Model Reporting Form for employees to report significant medical conditions & events, including medications. (Technical support provided by Physicians TF)
- ✓ Some progress made on dispute resolution but significant details remain which are not agreed upon.

WG Report: Medical Standards Task 06-03

Milestones: WG meetings held Feb 16-17 & March 11-12, 2010
(Continued):

- ✓ FRA has invited Industry and Labor to submit red-line revisions to all sections of the current FRA working draft.
- ✓ FRA will reassess progress and need for further WG meetings based on response of Labor & Industry to FRA's request.

WG Report: Medical Standards Task 06-03

Physicians TF: Since Dec 2009 WG mtg, meetings held Jan 21-22 & Mar 3, 2010. TF continues to meet to provide WG with technical FFD expert support for:

1. Appendix D: Reportable significant medical conditions & events, including medications.
2. Model Employee Reporting Form: Significant medical conditions & events, including medications.
3. Medical Criteria & Protocols: Psychiatric Disorders
4. OTC & prescription medications guidance for employees (TF to update FRA Dec 2009 version)

WG Report: Critical Incident Response Task 09-02

Milestones: December 8-9, 2009 WG meeting:

The WG:

- ✓ Received the Critical Incident Response Task 09-02
(Dec 8-9, 2009 WG meeting)

[Task 09-02: to provide advice re: development of implementing regulations for Critical Incident Stress Plans as required by the RSIA]

- ✓ Nominating and appointing Critical Incident Response TF
(Feb 16-17, and March 11-12, 2010 WG Meetings)

WG Report: Medical Standards Task 06-03

Scheduled meetings:

- ✓ Next WG meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 24-25, 2010
- ✓ The next Physicians TF meeting TBS

Task Completion:

- ✓ WG expected to complete draft rule text by Summer 2010
- ✓ FRA will then complete Draft preamble, preface, and internally staff, to prepare Final NPRM

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Thank You for Your Attention