



WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA

POLICY

NUMBER 2.4.7R

Effective Date: September 10th, 2004
Date Issued: September 13th, 2004

Topic: Normal Recovery Times
Section: Health Care

Date Approved by Board of Directors: September 9th, 2004

Subsection: General

Definition

"Normal recovery time" means an estimate determined by the Board of the normal time required for workers with a specific type of personal injury to return to work after the injury.

Policy Statement

1. Estimates of "normal recovery times" may be made by the Board based on the expected length of disability for the injured worker's type of injury as set out in *The Medical Disability Advisor: Workplace Guidelines for Disability Duration*, Presley Reed, M.D., LRP Publications, Horsham, Pennsylvania (as amended from time to time), unless that publication does not address the specific type of injury in question.
2. If the *Medical Disability Advisor* does not address the specific type of injury in question, or if other pathophysiological factors significantly impact the duration of the disability, the Board's estimate of "normal recovery time" for that type of injury will be made by a Board Medical Adviser, based on any other current relevant published sources and the Medical Adviser's professional opinion.
3. Determination of the duration of disability in accordance with the *Medical Disability Advisor* also requires an assessment of the injured worker's job classification and assignment into one of the following categories: sedentary work, light work, medium work, heavy work, or very heavy work.

The Board will apply the definitions used in the introduction to *The Medical Disability Advisor: Workplace Guidelines for Disability Duration*, Presley Reed, M.D. LRP Publications, Horsham, Pennsylvania (as amended from time to time).

Application This Policy replaces Policy 2.4.7 issued July 19th, 1996 and effective February 1st, 1996. This Policy applies to all decisions made on or after September 10th, 2004.

References Workers' Compensation Act (Chapter 10, Acts of 1994 - 95), Policy 3.3.5.

Executive Corporate Secretary