

ABOUT THE PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

- ◆ The third party medical examiner may be requested to assess your emotional or physical health. With the latter, the medical evaluator, after obtaining a detailed medical history, will conduct a physical examination.
- ◆ Depending on the type of problem, the examiner may elect to test different bodily functions. Therefore the examination may differ from examinations you have had in the past.
- ◆ The examiner will advise you whether it is necessary to disrobe and put on a medical gown over your undergarments. If you are required to do so, you have the right and should be given the opportunity to change in privacy.
- ◆ It is your responsibility to inform the examiner if the physical examination provokes undue discomfort or pain.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXAMINATION

- ◆ As part of the examination, the examiner may also evaluate your strength. As with testing movement, it is important that you cooperate with such testing to the best of your ability.
- ◆ If at any time, you feel that you cannot continue with the examination, you have the right to pause or, if necessary, end the examination. Should you choose the latter, it is essential that you provide details as to your reasons so the examiner can record them.
- ◆ In certain circumstances, your examination may also entail measures of your functional abilities (completion of a Functional Abilities Evaluation [FAE]). This involves more physical testing. During such testing, it remains your responsibility to provide feedback to the examiner.
- ◆ In the majority of cases, you will not be re-examined by the third party medical examiner or have the opportunity to speak directly to him or her again. It is therefore important that, at the end of your evaluation you provide any additional information you think is relevant about how you feel, or anything you think has a significant bearing on your status.
- ◆ A third party medical evaluation can be both emotionally and physically tiring. Temporary soreness after a long, detailed assessment and particularly after functional testing is not unusual.

THE CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MEDICAL EVALUATORS



An Information/Instruction Guide for Individuals Undergoing A Third Party / Independent Medical Examination (IME)

Please review this brochure before meeting with the examiner who has been scheduled to assess you. Those with limited ability to read English should review this with an individual who can translate the information for you.

If you have any questions or if any special arrangements are required, please contact the medical evaluator's office at least 48 hours before your appointment

To supersede all previous CSME pamphlets
May 2004

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE THIRD PARTY / IDEPENDENT MEDICAL EVALUATION

(IME)

A Third Party/Independent Medical Examination is different than a visit to your regular or treating doctor. Here are some of the differences:

- ◆ The examination has been requested by a third party that requires further information regarding your health.
- ◆ This information may be used by the referring party to help make decisions that pertain to you.
- ◆ It is important that you know who the requesting party is and why the examination has been requested before you consent to participate.
- ◆ The examination process usually takes much more time than a visit to your regular doctor. Depending on the type of exam and issues to be addressed, it can take many hours to complete. Under some circumstances, certain types of examinations may even be scheduled over a course of more than one day due to the length of time they require.
- ◆ Please ensure that you allow adequate time by asking the scheduling person or referring party how long your evaluation will take.
- ◆ Please feel free to request a break anytime you feel necessary, during the course of the examination.

HOW THIS EXAMINATION DIFFERS FROM RECEIVING CARE

Unlike a visit to your treating doctor, the third party medical examiner will not render care to you or provide advice. Therefore, the doctor who examines you as a third party evaluator will not establish a physician-patient or therapeutic relationship with you. This means that:

- ◆ Only in the event that the third party examiner finds an important, unexpected, clinical abnormality will he or she inform you of this finding. This is to enable you to seek appropriate and expeditious medical care. He or she will also inform the referring third party and/or your treating physician.
- ◆ The third party examiner will not otherwise provide you with his or her opinions about your findings, diagnoses or health care requirements. He or she will therefore not provide you with any advice, treatment or medical prescriptions.
- ◆ The third party medical examiner is not required to provide you with his or her opinion regarding the referral issue(s).
- ◆ The third party medical examiner's opinions and responses to questions will be provided in a report. That report will be sent to the referring party only, unless legislation dictates otherwise, or the referring party has requested a copy be sent to another party.

Your consent to participate in a third party medical evaluation is necessary before proceeding. Please ensure that you understand all sections of the consent form, before proceeding. If you do not read or understand English, a professional interpreter can be provided for you. A friend or family member cannot substitute for a professional translator. Therefore, you must inform the third party or examination office of the need for a translator before attending.

INFORMATION ABOUT PROVIDING YOUR MEDICAL HISTORY

- ◆ Other than in exceptional circumstances, the only people allowed to be present during the examination are you, the medical evaluator, a staff medical assistant and/or an interpreter. For individuals who have formally been declared incompetent, a duly appointed legal guardian is necessary. A parent or Guardian may accompany minors but is not permitted in the examination room.
- ◆ You are not permitted to make an electronic recording of any nature during the medical history or physical examination.
- ◆ During the examination, many questions will be asked of you. Some of these questions may be in regard to your personal past. While some of the questions may not seem important to you, they are relevant to the medical examination.
- ◆ If you do not feel comfortable answering a specific question, you may ask the medical evaluator to explain why the question is important and/or necessary, before you decide to answer.
- ◆ If you cannot remember or are uncertain of the accuracy of any answer, let the medical evaluator know. Avoid guessing.
- ◆ As the medical examiner may be provided with past medical records, it is important that you openly discuss all past medical issues with the assessor.
- ◆ In preparing the final report, the third party medical examiner may be asked to review additional information, such as school records, employment records, WSIB records or surveillance materials. You must therefore remain as accurate, detailed and complete as possible in describing not only your current health status, difficulties and limitations, but equally important, any past medical problems, restrictions and/or disabilities.