Course Description
This full-day conference will focus on both clinical and nonclinical aspects of the workers’ compensation arena. The morning will focus on hot topics in the clinical treatment of injuries and pain of the shoulder, knee, spine, foot, and ankle. The afternoon will focus on maximizing the effectiveness of your chosen care provider and an overall medical/legal perspective.

Course Objectives
At the conclusion of this course, the participant will be able to:

- Understand certain elements of common work-related injuries of the foot and ankle, knee, shoulder, and spine
- Understand chronic use of opioid therapy in work-related conditions
- Understand how to maximize effectiveness of chosen providers
- Have an understanding of the current legal trends in workers’ compensation

Who Should Attend?
This conference is intended for decision-makers and stakeholders involved in workers’ compensation issues, including case managers for workers’ compensation, human resources and safety professionals, claims adjusters, attorneys, primary care physicians, or other medical professionals with responsibility for workers’ compensation.

Agenda

7:30 a.m. Registration/Continental Breakfast
8 a.m. Welcome/Introductions/Course Overview — Donna Jasko, VP Operations, UPMC Passavant
8:05 a.m. Pitfalls of Rotator Cuff Surgery — Christopher C. Schmidt, MD, Orthopaedic Specialists–UPMC
8:35 a.m. Pre-Existing Conditions and the Effect on Work-Related Incidents of the Ankle and Foot — Stephen F. Conti, MD, Orthopaedic Specialists–UPMC
9:05 a.m. Diagnosis and Treatment of Work-Related Acute Knee Injuries — Christopher Emond, MD, Tri-State Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine
9:35 a.m. Work-Related Aggravation of Pre-Existing DJD of the Knee — Michael Pagnotto, MD, Tri-State Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine
10:05 a.m. Break
10:15 a.m. Chronic Opioid Therapy — James L. Cosgrove, MD, Tri Rivers Surgical Associates, Inc.
10:45 a.m. Clinical Aspects of Occupational Back Pain — M. Melissa Moon, DO, UPMC Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
11:15 a.m. Case Study/Panel Discussion
Noon Lunch
1 p.m. A View From the Bench — Judge David B. Torrey, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
1:30 p.m. Assessing the Value of Your Occupational Health Provider — Shadrach H. Jones IV, MD, Vice President, Medical Director, H.A.P.P.I. Occupational Health
2 p.m. Equipping Your Orthopaedic IME Physician to Dig for the Truth — Michael W. Weiss, MD, Tri Rivers Surgical Associates, Inc.
2:30 p.m. Medical/Legal Q & A
3 p.m. Conclusion/Meet the Experts

Schedule is subject to change.

UPMC is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, an accredited approver of the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. This conference has been submitted for CEU consideration for RN, CCM, CRC, CLE, and CDMS. Information will be provided regarding certification approval to all registered attendees upon a decision being rendered. In accordance with the Office of Continuing Education requirements on disclosure, information about relationships of presenters with commercial interests (if any) will be included in materials that will be distributed at the time of the conference.

Achieving Excellence in Workers’ Compensation: Strategies From Medical and Legal Professionals

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30, 2013

Presented by

UPMC Passavant
Christopher C. Schmidt, MD, Orthopaedic Specialists–UPMC
Dr. Schmidt is board-certified in orthopaedic surgery with a certificate of added qualification in hand surgery. His clinical emphasis is in shoulder, elbow, and hand surgery, with expertise in arthroscopic techniques, joint replacement, repair of the tendon, ligament, and nerve, and fracture care. Dr. Schmidt will discuss how rotator cuff injuries are especially problematic in the workers’ compensation arena.

The tough questions include: (1) Is the neck or old or new? (2) Is the neck or shoulder causing the problem? (3) What are the reasons for return-to-work times following rotator cuff surgery? and (4) What are the considerations and prognosis for multiple rotator cuff surgeries?

Stephen F. Conti, MD, Orthopaedic Specialists–UPMC
Dr. Conti is a graduate of New Jersey Medical School in Newark, N.J. He completed a residency in orthopaedic surgery as well as a fellowship in foot and ankle surgery, and is board-certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. His areas of clinical expertise include all nonoperative and operative orthopaedic problems of the foot, ankle, and leg. Dr. Conti will share how both congenital problems, such as coalitions or cavus feet, as well as acquired problems, such as diabetes or ankle instability, clearly affect work-related injury and recovery. He will also address the impact of pre-existing conditions on foot and ankle injuries, and issues to watch for during recovery.

Michael Pagnotto, MD, Tri-State Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, Inc.
Dr. Pagnotto earned his medical degree from Columbia University in New York City and completed his advanced fellowship training in hip and knee replacement at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. A board-certified surgeon, he has worked with the most advanced techniques in primary and secondary revision hip and knee surgery, including minimally invasive surgery, arthroscopic surgery, arthroscopic repair of meniscal tears, partial knee replacement, and multimodal pain management. Dr. Pagnotto will discuss how to determine when a patient has suffered a work-related aggravation of a pre-existing condition, such as DJD (Arthritis) of the knee, in an acute work-related injury. He will also address treatment protocols for these conditions.

Christopher Emond, MD, Tri-State Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, Inc.
Dr. Emond is a board-certified surgeon, received his medical degree from New York Medical College, completed his residency at Boston University Medical Center, and finished his subspecialty fellowship training in sports medicine surgery at the Rothman Institute at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. His expertise is in the diagnosis and treatment of injuries to the shoulder, elbow, hip, knee, and ankle sustained by athletes and nonathletes alike. Dr. Emond will discuss work-related knee injuries, including knee sprains, medial meniscus tears, and ACL tears. He will review conservative versus surgical treatment options, and mechanisms of injury, and address return-to-work guidelines as well as illustrate the importance of high-quality diagnostic testing for a prompt and accurate diagnosis.

James L. Cosgrove, MD, Tri Rivers Surgical Associates, Inc.
Dr. Cosgrove received his medical degree from George Washington University and completed his residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University Health Centers of Pittsburgh. He offers fluoroscopically guided injections and electrodiagnostic testing, as well as treatments for back, hip and neck pain; spinal disorders; and pain associated with neuromuscular disorders. Dr. Cosgrove is board-certified by the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation with a subspecialty certification in pain medicine. He also holds board certifications from the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners and American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine. He will discuss the history of opioid therapy, the biological reasons for its effectiveness, and its proper use in chronic pain patients.

M. Melissa Moon, DO, UPMC Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Dr. Moon obtained her medical degree from the medical school at Michigan State University and completed her residency at the University of Michigan Medical Center. She has experience in occupational medicine and will review the anatomy, diagnosis, and treatment options associated with occupational back pain, along with the management of work restrictions and return to duty.

Judge David B. Torrey, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Judge Torrey is a workers’ compensation judge and medical-fee review hearing officer with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry and an adjunct professor of law, University of Pittsburgh School of Law. In 2008, Judge Torrey published the third edition of his treatise, Torrey & Greenberg, Pennsylvania Workers’ Compensation: Law & Practice (Thomson-Reuters 3rd ed. 2008). He will discuss updates with the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation as well as current legal trends in workers’ compensation that the audience should be aware of.

Judge Pamela L. Briston, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Judge Briston is a workers’ compensation judge in the Pittsburgh and Monaca offices. She has served as a workers’ compensation judge since 1994 in western Pennsylvania, and practiced in the area of workers’ compensation from 1984 through 1994. A graduate of the Duquesne University School of Law, she received her undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Valerie S. Faeth, Cohen & Grigsby, PC
Ms. Faeth is a partner with the Pittsburgh law firm of Cohen and Grigsby, where she practices in the firm’s labor and employment department. In addition to counseling and representing employers in workers’ compensation matters, she also counsels and represents employers in employment litigation matters. In 2012 and 2013 she was selected by her peers for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America.

Vincent J. Quarini Jr., Quarini Rafferty Attorneys at Law
Mr. Quarini has 39 years of experience in the area of workers compensation. He was recently certified by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court as a workers’ compensation specialist. He also will be conferred with the Irvin Stander award of professionalism this fall in Hershey. Mr. Quarini is one of a statewide team of attorneys who co-author the publication, Pennsylvania Workers’ Compensation Practice & Procedure, and lectures to more than 1000 workers compensation attorneys across Pennsylvania.

Judge Irvin Stander, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Judge Stander is a workers’ compensation judge in the Pittsburgh and Monaca offices. He has served as a workers’ compensation judge since 1994 in western Pennsylvania, and practiced in the area of workers’ compensation from 1984 through 1994. A graduate of the Duquesne University School of Law, he received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Judge Pamela L. Briston, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Judge Briston is a workers’ compensation judge in the Pittsburgh and Monaca offices. She has served as a workers’ compensation judge since 1994 in western Pennsylvania, and practiced in the area of workers’ compensation from 1984 through 1994. A graduate of the Duquesne University School of Law, she received her undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Judge Irvin Stander, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Judge Stander is a workers’ compensation judge in the Pittsburgh and Monaca offices. He has served as a workers’ compensation judge since 1994 in western Pennsylvania, and practiced in the area of workers’ compensation from 1984 through 1994. A graduate of the Duquesne University School of Law, he received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh.