

**Alberta WCB
Policies &
Information**

Chapter:

GENERAL POLICIES

Subject:

RECORDING AND REPORTING ACCIDENTS

Authorization:

BoD Resolution 2003/04/14

Date:

April 29, 2003

APPLICATION 3: PHYSICIAN REPORT OF ACCIDENT

1. *What accidents must physicians report to WCB and when?*

Physicians, as defined in the *WCA*, must report to WCB within 2 days after the initial treatment of a worker if the physician considers that the injury will or is likely to disable the worker for more than the day of the accident or that the injury may cause complications that contribute to disablement in the future.

See Policy 04-06, *Health Care*, for detailed information about reporting obligations.

2. *Do physicians have other WCB reporting responsibilities?*

Yes. In accordance with the *WCA*, physicians must also:

- advise WCB when the worker will be or was able to return to work not later than 3 days after the worker is able to do so
- provide all other reports requested by WCB

3. *Do the reporting obligations of physicians change if they work for an employer?*

No. All physicians have the same reporting obligations, as set out in the *WCA* and this policy. These obligations do not change if:

- the physician works at an employer owned or operated health centre
- an employer pays the salary of the physician, or
- an employer pays any medical expenses associated with the accident that are authorized by WCB

WCB may, however, require different types of physicians, e.g., medical doctors, chiropractors, physiotherapists, to use different reporting forms.

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4. *What are the consequences for a physician of late or incomplete reporting?*

Physicians who do not meet their reporting requirements, may be subject to the following:

- delayed payment of fee for service
- reduced reporting fees
- report to the appropriate professional regulatory body, e.g., College of Physicians and Surgeons
- termination of their WCB contract

Reporting fees will not be paid for reports that are incomplete or, in the opinion of WCB, not legible. Penalties may be imposed if a report is, in the opinion of WCB, incomplete or not legible.

5. *When is this policy application effective?*

This policy application (Application 3 – Physician Report of Accident) is effective May 1, 2003, except when noted otherwise in a specific policy section(s).

[Document History](#)

Previous versions

- [Policy 0105 Part II - August 2015](#)
- [Policy 0105 Part II - January 2004](#)
- [Policy 0105 Part II \(1st Issue\) - May 2003](#)