



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Rehabilitation Provider Network

November 19, 2001

#2001-13

Guidelines Regarding Public Holidays

We have received questions from several providers requesting direction regarding the upcoming holidays. Practice this year is not any different from that of last year. To review the guidelines pertaining to public holidays, please refer to your contract and the following information:

- Public holidays recognized by the WCB as days off not to be included as treatment days are:
 - New Year's Day
 - Good Friday
 - Easter Monday
 - Victoria Day
 - Canada Day
 - British Columbia Day
 - Labour Day
 - Thanksgiving Day
 - Remembrance Day
 - Christmas Day
 - Boxing Day

- It is the responsibility of the providers to clearly inform the injured workers and the Entitlement Officers/Case Managers of holiday closures.

- If providers choose to open on one of the above holidays, it is their prerogative to do so, but providers should be cautious in enforcing the attendance of injured workers, particularly if the worker would have the holiday off if he or she were working.

- Providers who choose to close their programs on any days not recognized as public holidays must:
 - Receive authorization from the Program Manager at WCB
 - Communicate the closure to the Entitlement Officers/Case Managers
 - Ensure that injured workers' quality of care is not compromised
 - Must include such days as treatment days. Requests for extension will not be granted.

- External providers are expected to provide injured workers with appropriate home exercises during any closure period.

Please direct any questions regarding this notification to the Program Managers at WCB.

Margaret Perry
Director, Rehabilitation Services
Workers Compensation Board of BC