| **MTUS EVIDENCE BASED UPDATES** | **RULEMAKING COMMENTS**  **30 DAY COMMENT PERIOD** | **NAME OF PERSON/ AFFILIATION** | **RESPONSE** | **ACTION** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9792.23.8(a)(3)  Anxiety Disorders Guideline – Pages 87 and 89 | Commenter states that she has discovered an inconsistency in the Benzodiazepines section, first paragraph (indications), last sentence, which reads:  “Patients should also have generally failed to obtain sufficient symptom relief while having trialed at least three other medications that do not have the addictive properties of benzodiazepines, such as antidepressants, hydroxyzine, propranolol, and buspirone.”  Commenter notes that later in the last paragraph of the Rational section on page 89, the text reads:  “Patients should have generally been treated, complied with, and obtained insufficient symptom relief with CBT, aerobic exercise, strengthening exercise, and at least 2 non-addictive medication trials (e.g., antidepressants, propranolol, hydroxyzine, buspirone).  Commenter would like to know which is required – **two** or **three** failed trails of non-addictive medication therapy? | Erin Kuecker, Clinical Pharmacist  Optum  May 25, 2020  Written Comment | Agree. Commenter discovered a typographical error in the document being incorporated by reference into the MTUS. The publishers of the ACOEM Workplace Mental Health Guideline: Anxiety Disorders module was made aware of this inconsistency and has now edited the bottom of the Rational section of page 89 to read “3 non-addictive medication trials” instead of 2. | The bottom of the Rational section on page 89, now reads:  “Patients should have generally been treated, complied with, and obtained insufficient symptom relief with CBT, aerobic exercise, strengthening exercise, and at least 3 non-addictive medication trials (e.g., antidepressants, propranolol, hydroxyzine, buspirone). |
| 9792.23.8(a)(3)  Anxiety Disorders Guideline | Commenter has reviewed the proposed update and has no comment at this time. | Andrea Guzman  Claims Regulatory Director  State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF)  June 10, 2021  Written Comment | Noted. | None. |
| 9792.23.8(a)(3)  Anxiety Disorders Guideline  General Comment | Commenter supports this update to the Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule, ensuring that treatment for injured workers remains governed by evidence-based guidelines that are the most current available from ACOEM. | Jackie Secia  CWCI Claims and Medical Director  California Workers’ Compensation Institute (CWCI)  June 11, 2021  Written Comment | Noted. | None. |