



What is a Medical Panel?

Medical Panels is an independent service that we may use to obtain answers to medical questions related to a dispute. We call this a referral to a Medical Panel.

Each Medical Panel is a group of expert specialist doctors which provides an Opinion.

Medical Panels is independent and works like a tribunal. Opinions are final, and the parties and the Workplace Injury Commission must accept them.

Who can suggest a Medical Panel referral?

Any party can ask us to refer questions to a Medical Panel. The Conciliation Officer may also suggest a referral if they think it could help to resolve the dispute. Any proposed referral will be discussed with the parties before it is made.

How do we decide whether to send a Medical Panel referral?

The Conciliation Officer takes into account:

- The medical questions
- Any factual or legal issues
- The parties' opinions
- If the Medical Panel Opinion is likely to resolve the dispute

What does the Workplace Injury Commission send to a Medical Panel?

A Medical Panel referral will include:

- Information about the claimed injury
- Agreed facts
- Questions for the Medical Panel to answer.

- Copies of documents relevant to the dispute

What happens at the Medical Panel?

The injured worker may be required to see one or more doctors, either individually or jointly, for examination. For more information see the Medical Panels website

www.medicalpanels.vic.gov.au

How long will it take for a Medical Panel to provide its Opinion?

A Medical Panel has to send us its Opinion within 67 days of the doctors receiving the referral.

This time may be extended if needed, for example, if the Medical Panel needs more information, or needs more time to give its Opinion. The parties will be informed if the time is extended.

What happens to the conciliation while waiting for the Medical Panel Opinion?

Once we have referred questions to a Medical Panel, the conciliation process will be on hold until we receive the Opinion.

What happens when the Medical Panel Opinion is received?

We will send a copy of the Opinion to all parties and their representatives. We ask them to review the Opinion and respond to us within a set time (usually 7 days).

We will consider the responses and issue an outcome certificate which reflects the Medical Panel's Opinion and finalises the dispute.



What if a party does not agree with the Medical Panel Opinion?

The Medical Panel Opinion is final and must be accepted by the parties and the Workplace Injury Commission.

If a party believes that there are legal errors in the Opinion, they can go to the Supreme Court. Before doing so, a party should consider seeking legal advice.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, see our *Medical Panel in Conciliation Policy and Procedure* on our website www.wic.vic.gov.au/resources or call us on 1800 635 960.

Need help?

For more information or assistance, please:

- call **03 9940 1111** or **1800 635 960**
- email info@wic.vic.gov.au
- visit wic.vic.gov.au



Do you need an interpreter?



If you have trouble understanding any of the information outlined please contact 131 450 and ask for the interpreter to contact the Workplace Injury Commission on 1800 635 960 or 9940 1111 to explain further.

إذا كنت تواجه مشكلة في فهم أي من المعلومات الموضحة، فيرجى الاتصال بالرقم 131 450 واطلب من المترجم الاتصال بلجنة الإصابات 9940 1111 أو 1800 635 960 في مكان العمل لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل على الرقم

如果您对上述信息有疑问，请拨打 131 450，通过口译员联系工伤赔偿委员会，电话 1800 635 960 或 9940 1111，进行进一步咨询。

Ako ne razumijete ove informacije, nazovite 131 450 i zamolite tumača da vam nazovu Workplace Injury Commission (Komisiju za ozljede na radu) na 1800 635 960 ili 9940 1111 za objašnjenja.

Εάν δυσκολεύεστε να κατανοήσετε οποιαδήποτε από τις πληροφορίες που περιγράφονται, επικοινωνήστε με τον αριθμό 131 450 και ζητήστε από τον διερμηνέα να επικοινωνήσει με την Επιτροπή Τραυματισμών στο Χώρο Εργασίας (Workplace Injury Commission) στον αριθμό 1800 635 960 ή 9940 1111 για περαιτέρω διευκρινήσεις.

Se hai difficoltà a comprendere queste informazioni chiama il 131 450 e chiedi all'interprete di contattare la Workplace Injury Commission al 1800 635 960 o al 9940 1111 per una spiegazione più approfondita.

Ако имате тешкотии да разберете која било од наведените информации, ве молиме јавете се на 131 450 и побарајте преведувач да контактира со Workplace Injury Commission (Комисија за повреди на работното место) на 1800 635 960 или 9940 1111 заради натамошни објаснувања.

'Jeśli masz problemy ze zrozumieniem którejkolwiek z podanych informacji, zadzwoń pod numer 131 450 i poproś o tłumacza, aby skontaktował się z Workplace Injury Commission pod numerem 1800 635 960 lub 9940 1111 pod dalsze wyjaśnienia'.

Ако не разумете ове информације, назовите 131 450 и замолите преводиоца да вам назову Workplace Injury Commission (Комисију за повреде на раду) на 1800 635 960 или 9940 1111 да бисте добили објашњења.

"Si usted tiene dificultades para entender cualquier información expuesta, póngase en contacto con el 131 450 y pida que el intérprete contacte a la Workplace Injury Commission (Comision de Accidentes de Trabajo) llamando al 1800 635 960, a fin de obtener una explicación más detallada "