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January 2011

Dear Valued Medcor On-Line Clients,

The clinical aspects of the Medcor On-Line telephone triage service we provide to your company are continuously monitored and evaluated by a panel of clinical specialists that include physicians, physician's assistants and nurses. We refer to that group of clinicians as Medcor's Clinical Affairs Team. As part of this quality review process, the team periodically reviews the clinical algorithms the nurses apply during an injury triage call for content and structure as well as the associated post-injury care instructions our nurses provide to your injured employees. Those post injury care instructions often include suggested medications for the injured employees to use at the conclusion of the call. After considerable review of current medical literature and in the interest of maximizing medication safety for your employees, the clinical affairs team has decided we must change some of the medications our nurses will recommend for self care. We have added aspirin, replaced ibuprofen (Advil) with naproxen (Aleve), and decreased the maximum acetaminophen (Tylenol) adult dose.

Aspirin has been added as a first aid measure for people experiencing chest pain. Aspirin can be a life saving medication in such situations. The nurse will recommend that the person experiencing chest pain chew 325mg of aspirin if available. This addition will not impact the time it takes to triage your employee.

Compelling new evidence suggests that ibuprofen may be associated with an increased risk of heart attack and stroke. Other anti-inflammatory medications, naproxen in particular, does not seem to carry the same risk. Based on this information, we are substituting ibuprofen with naproxen.

The FDA has stated that the current daily maximum dose of acetaminophen is too high; however, they have not settled on a new recommendation. Based on this knowledge, we elected to remove extra strength acetaminophen (500mg) from our suggested list of medications. We will recommend a more conservative dose. Our new suggested maximum daily dose will be two regular strength (325mg) acetaminophen every six hours.

Our self care and interim care instructions will reflect these changes starting in mid-February. We have attached an updated list of suggested first aid kit contents. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding these changes.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Thomas H. Glimp in black ink.

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