

**Alberta WCB
Policies &
Information**

Chapter:

INJURIES

Subject:

GENERAL

Authorization

BoD Resolution 96/10/53

Date:

November 26, 1996

APPLICATION 2: SECOND INJURY

- 1. *What does the term "second injury" mean?***

A second injury is a new and distinct impairment or disease occurring as a consequence or complication of a compensable injury.
- 2. *Under what circumstances are second injuries compensable?***

Second injuries may be compensable if they occur as a direct result of WCB-approved medical or rehabilitation treatment for a compensable injury, or as a result of a weakened limb or failure of a prosthesis or appliance related to a compensable injury. For example, if a worker's compensable injury is being treated with physiotherapy and the manipulation causes an injury to a different part of the body, WCB assumes responsibility for any medical and compensation benefits resulting from the new injury.
- 3. *If a worker is injured while on the premises of a treating facility, is the injury compensable?***

The injury is not compensable unless it meets the conditions set out in Question 2. For example, if a worker is hit by a cart in the hallway of the treatment facility while on the way to treatment, the injury is not compensable because the worker was not actively involved in the treatment program at the time of the accident.
- 4. *If a worker is injured while traveling to treatment, is the injury compensable?***

The injury is not compensable if it occurs when the worker is travelling to or from an agency for the purposes of treatment or evaluation. Coverage is extended, however, when a further injury occurs while a worker is being transported to a hospital, or other place of emergency treatment, from the site of an industrial accident.
- 5. *How is cost relief applied to second injury claims?***

For the appropriate application of cost relief, see Policy 05-02, *Cost Relief*.

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6. *When is this policy application effective?*

This policy application (Application 2 – Second Injury) is effective February 15, 1997, except when noted otherwise in a specific policy section(s).

Previous versions

- [Policy 0301 Part II - August 2015](#)
- [Policy 0301 Part II - January 2004](#)
- [Policy 0301 Part II - June 2002](#)
- [Policy 0301 Part II - June 2001](#)
- [Policy 0301 Part II - December 2000](#)
- [Policy 0301 Part II - March 1999](#)
- [Policy 0301 Part II - January 1998](#)
- [Policy 0301 Part II \(consolidated manual 1st Issue\) - February 1997](#)