



**NYCIRB**  
New York Compensation  
Insurance Rating Board  
733 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
Tel: (212) 697-3535

March 26, 2020

R.C. 2508

Re: Amendments to the New York Statistical Plan  
COVID-19 Nature of Injury, Cause of Injury, and Catastrophe Codes  
Effective Date: August 1, 2020

Members of the Rating Board:

I write to inform you that the New York State Department of Financial Services (“Department”) approved amendments to the Rating Board’s New York Statistical Plan (“Plan”) which are detailed herein, attached hereto, and are effective for policies with a valuation date of on or after August 1, 2020. The amendments establish Cause of Injury, Nature of Injury and Catastrophe codes to identify workers’ compensation claims associated with the COVID-19 virus.

Specifically, the Department approved the following revisions to the Plan: (a) establishment of Nature of Injury Code 83 (COVID-19); (b) establishment of Cause of Injury Code 83 (Pandemic); and (c) establishment of Catastrophe Number 12. The new codes were approved by the Workers’ Compensation Insurance Organization (“WCIO”) to ensure consistency among rating bureaus countrywide.

The effective date for the Nature of Injury and Cause of Injury codes are for policy valuation dates of August 1, 2020, and later, which is the effective date shown on the attached revised Plan pages. By way of brief explanation, the valuation date of first report of Unit Statistical Reports (“USRs”) is 18 months after the policy effective date. This means that the August 1, 2020 valuation date would be applicable for reporting USRs for policies with an effective date of on or after February 1, 2019.

For catastrophe reporting of COVID-19 claims, Catastrophe Number 12 is to be utilized for claims with Accident Dates of December 1, 2019 and later. Given that COVID-19 related claims in New York State are not expected to have occurred prior to February 1, 2020, the effective valuation date of August 1, 2020 ensures that all COVID-19 related claims are clearly identified and captured in the data reported to the Rating Board.

The following modified and final pages from the Plan, reflecting the approved amendments, are attached for your convenience: R-32, R-50 and R-54.

Members of the Rating Board  
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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David Knight, Vice President of Operations at (212) 697-3535, ext. 122 or at [operations@nycirb.org](mailto:operations@nycirb.org).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Attie", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jeremy Attie  
President and CEO

Enclosure

**17. Jurisdiction State**

Report the numeric state code of the governing jurisdiction that will administer the claim and whose statutes will apply to the claim adjustment process when that state is not New York.

**18. Catastrophe Number**

A catastrophe is defined as any accident (one occurrence) resulting in two or more reportable claims.

Report the two-digit sequential number for 2 or more claims resulting from the same occurrence. For each policy, the claims from the first such occurrence must be assigned a Catastrophe Number of 01, claims from a second occurrence must be 02, etc. When an occurrence results in only one claim being reported, zero-fill this field.

- ★ **EXCEPTIONS:** (1) Report Catastrophe Number 87 for all claims for a latent condition emanating from the rescue, recovery and clean-up operations at the World Trade Center site that were undertaken between September 11, 2001 and September 12, 2002, as defined in Article 8-A of the New York Workers' Compensation Law (Chapter 446 of the Laws of 2006).

(2) Report Catastrophe Number 12 for all claims occurring on or after December 1, 2019 that are due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Note:* Catastrophe Number 87 will apply to both single and multiple claims.

**19. Managed Care Organization Type**

Report the code that corresponds to the type of organization, if any, that administers the applicable medical loss on the claim.

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>
00	Not Administered by an approved Managed Care or Preferred Provider Organization
01	Administered by an approved Managed Care Organization
03	Administered by an approved Preferred Provider Organization

**20. Injury Description Code**

Report the 3 two-digit codes that represent respectively, the Part of Body, Nature of Injury and Cause of Injury for each claim. *Refer to Part VI for the applicable codes.*

**21. New York State Workers' Compensation Board Case Number**

Report the unique alphanumeric Case Number assigned to each claim by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board.

*Note:* The Case Number must be reported for every claim to which a number has been assigned by the Workers' Compensation Board.

**Injury Description Codes – Nature of Injury (Cont'd)**

<u>Code</u>	<u>Nature of Injury</u>	<u>Narrative Description</u>
69	Mental Disorder	A clinically significant behavioral or psychological syndrome or pattern typically associated with either a distressing symptom or impairment of function i.e., acute anxiety, neurosis, stress, non-toxic depression.
70	Radiation	All forms of damage to tissue, bones or body fluids produced by exposure to radiation.
71	All Other Occupational Disease Injury, NOC	
72	Loss of Hearing	
73	Contagious Disease	
74	Cancer	
75	AIDS	
76	VDT - Related Diseases	Video display terminal diseases other than carpal tunnel syndrome.
77	Mental Stress	
78	Carpal Tunnel Syndrome	Soreness, tenderness and weakness of the muscles of the thumb caused by pressure on the median nerve at the point at which it goes through the carpal tunnel of the wrist.
79	Hepatitis C	
80	All Other Cumulative Injury, NOC	
★ 83	<u>COVID – 19</u>	
<b>III. Multiple Injuries</b>		
90	Multiple Physical Injuries Only	
91	Multiple Injuries Including Both Physical and Physiological	

**Injury Description Codes – Cause of Injury (Cont'd)**

<u>Code</u>	<u>Cause of Injury</u>	<u>Narrative Description</u>
86	Explosion or Flare Back	
81	Struck or Injured, NOC	Includes kicked, stabbed, bit, etc.
<b>IX. Rubbed or Abraded By</b>		
94	Repetitive Motion	Callous, blister, etc.
95	Rubbed or Abraded, NOC	
<b>X. Miscellaneous Causes</b>		
82	Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation, NOC	
★ 83	<u>Pandemic</u>	
87	Foreign Matter (Body) in (Eyes)	
88	Natural Disaster	
89	Person in Act of a Crime (Other Than Gunshot)	Robbery or criminal assault
90	Other Than Physical Cause of Injury	
93	Gunshot	
91	Mold	
96	Terrorism	
98	Cumulative, NOC	All Other
99	Other - Miscellaneous, NOC	

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