



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE WELFARE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD INSPECTOR GENERAL

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LETIZIA TAGLIAFIERRO
INSPECTOR GENERAL

May 14, 2020

Clarissa M. Rodriguez, Esq.
Chair
New York State Workers' Compensation Board
328 State Street
Schenectady, New York 12305-2318

Re: WCFIG 3727-325-2019

Dear Chair Rodriguez:

On May 1, 2019, the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) referred to the Office of the New York State Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General (WCFIG) a complaint from Travelers Insurance alleging that New York City area neurologist [REDACTED] is making false positive diagnoses of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-concussion syndrome (PCS) in his review of patients claiming work-related injuries in order to generate expensive diagnostic testing. According to the complaint, it also appeared suspicious that [REDACTED] referred subsequent magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) testing to a single provider and all other additional testing and treatment was being conducted in-house rather than by outside practitioners.

WCFIG's investigation of these allegations included a review of [REDACTED] testing, diagnoses, and treatment practices. This review found that from April 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019, [REDACTED] saw 323 patients. WCFIG chose a random sampling of 25 patients from this total for an intensive treatment review.

and appropriate action. Additionally, I recommend that the WCB advise the individual insurance carriers to monitor and review [REDACTED] bills and variance requests.

Please advise me of any action taken by the Workers' Compensation Board in response to this referral within 45 days of the date of this letter. If you require further information, please contact Deputy Inspector General Robyn Adair at 518.474.1010.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Letizia Tagliafierro
Inspector General

Cc: David F. Wertheim, Esq.
General Counsel