

Medical Comp Laude Award

Kathryn Mueller, MD, MPH

Medical Director at Colorado Division of Workers' Compensation and 2015 Medical Comp Laude Award Winner Kathryn Mueller, MD, MPH, was honored for her significant and lasting impact on workers' compensation.

A tireless evidence-based medicine advocate, Mueller helped shape Colorado and ACOEM guidelines and was named one of the nation's most influential people in workers' compensation by SEAK, Inc. (Skills, Education, Achievement, Knowledge), a training and professional development organization that assists case managers, adjusters, legal and health care professionals in the workers' compensation arena.

Beginning her career as a board-certified emergency medicine physician as an EMS medical director in south Chicago and then for the state of Colorado, Mueller earned her board certification in occupational and environmental medicine, which she practiced clinically at the University of Colorado. She has served as president of the Rocky Mountain Academy of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, as Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer for the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, and on the Board of Directors for both organizations, and from 2002-2007, Mueller served as residency director for the occupational medicine residency at the CU School of Medicine.

In May 2014, Mueller was named president of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, the nation's largest association representing occupational and environmental physicians. Since 1992, she has served as the medical director for the Division of Workers' Compensation in Colorado, helping develop evidence-based state guidelines for treatment of work-related injuries and directing the state workers' compensation accreditation program for physicians.

As one of six section editors for the AMA Guidelines for the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment 6th edition, Mueller has also authored numerous publications relating to interstate variation of practice in workers' compensation, use of practice guidelines and impairment rating.

"I am honored to join the distinguished group of others being honored for their work," says Mueller. "I am proud of my contributions to the health of Colorado's workers and I am delighted to receive this recognition, however, it truly belongs to everybody who has helped build a system in which Colorado can take a lot of pride."

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