



## **Auto Insurance Requires Quality EMG Standards and Safeguards to Mitigate Medical Fraud & Abuse**

*Dr. John Robinton, Medical Director of Neurodiagnostics at One Call Care Management, Educates Special Investigators on How to Identify and Address Escalating EMG Fraud & Abuse Issues*

**JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (October 31, 2016)** – Electromyography (EMG), a diagnostic procedure used to assess muscle and nerve damage, has become a major area of concern and a potential gateway for medical fraud and abuse, particularly in auto insurance. Dr. John E. Robinton, Medical Director of Neurodiagnostics at [One Call Care Management](#) (One Call), presented on this topic of “EMG Fraud and Abuse” at the [New Jersey Special Investigators Association’s](#) (NJSIA) meeting in October.

As a non-profit organization, NJSIA has undertaken a mission to educate special investigators and law enforcement on new laws, developing trends, and investigative techniques related to insurance fraud.

“Several factors have made auto insurance susceptible to EMG fraud and abuse,” said Dr. Robinton. “Results may be inaccurate or even fabricated, which then exposes the claim to more extensive medical fraud. For example, the test results in question could lead to unnecessary procedures, such as surgery and epidural injections, which are not only expensive to cover, but also invasive and painful for unsuspecting claimants.”

With Dr. Robinton at the helm of [One Call’s Neurodiagnostics program](#), the company has been able to champion EMG quality in the workers’ compensation industry. One Call admits neurologists and physiatrists into its provider network to perform these exams only after they undergo One Call’s rigorous credentialing protocols. These providers are required to meet and continually adhere to One Call’s stringent EMG quality standards, providing workers’ compensation payers with confidence in the accuracy and medical usefulness of EMG test results.

“While progress has been made in workers’ compensation, auto insurance still lacks safeguards in relation to quality and costs,” said Dr. Robinton. “On average, reimbursement for an EMG in auto insurance is 10 times higher than it is in a typical group health or Medicare claim. Lucrative fees combined with lax standards draw the type of practitioners who may be looking to take advantage of the system.”

Dr. Robinton, who has long served as a consultant to New Jersey’s attorney general regarding EMG fraud, highlighted inconsistencies that could alert investigators and lawyers to potential red flags. “An auto accident could be relatively minor in nature, but the claimant is being treated for a long-term, debilitating injury. Attorneys may also unearth discrepancies in the claimant’s examination under oath (EUO). For example, a male claimant might say he’s being treated once a week, but unbeknownst to him, the insurer is being billed for therapy several times a week.”

“The goal is to get EMG providers with dubious practices out of play,” said Dr. Robinton. “Fraud and abuse hurt the legitimate providers, who are dedicated to quality but may be experiencing financial

hardship as a result of unqualified and unscrupulous providers lowering overall standards of care, as well as reimbursement rates across the field of neurodiagnostic medicine,” said Dr. Robinton.

**About One Call Care Management**

One Call is the nation’s leading provider of specialized solutions to the workers’ compensation industry. One Call’s solutions enable faster, more efficient and more cost-effective claims resolution with a focus on injured workers’ needs across the continuum of care. One Call provides reliable, consistent connections to care with expertise in high end diagnostics, physical therapy and transportation services, post-discharge home care and durable medical equipment, dental and doctor specialty services, complex care management, and the language services required for today’s multicultural workforce. For more information, visit [www.onecallcm.com](http://www.onecallcm.com).

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