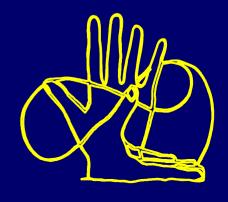
# The Changing Role of the Agreed Medical Evaluation (AME)

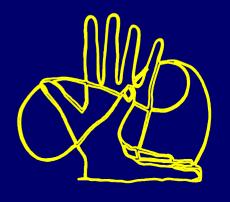
CALIFORNIA ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION



How I Became An AME ...

Why I Remain An AME ...

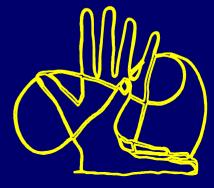
RICHARD M. BRAUN, M.D.



To Be ...
OR
Not To Be ...



That Is The Question ...



### What Does An AME Do?

- Examines A Patient
- Reviews Records
- Generates An AME Report

### AME Issues May Include ...

- Claim Acceptance/Denial
- Treatment vs. Permanent & Stationary
- Residual Disability
- Work Restrictions
- Causation/Apportionment
- Future Medical Care

### **AME Reports**

- Entry Into The System
- Treatment/Define Clinical Pathways
- Leaving The System
- Disability Evaluation

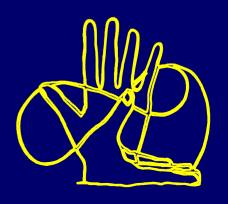
### Agreed Medical Evaluator (AME)

#### Reasons To Consider:

- Augment Income
- Fill Open Schedule Time
- Authority Figure
- Frustration With Treatment Process

### AME – Reasons To Consider

"There Were Three Stone Masons Building A Cathedral ..."



### Agreed Medical Evaluator (AME)

Reasons To Consider:

A Good AME Report ...

- Facilitates Good Medical Care
- Expedites Solution Of A Dispute
- Allows A Medically Driven Legal System To Function

#### **AME**

- A Good <u>AME Report</u>
  - Must Address The Substantive
     Evidence Of Each Position
  - Must Reach Reasonable Conclusions
  - Allows The Attorneys To Settle The Case / Issue

### AME Resolution Of Issues.

Don't Tell
 The Truth
 Just
 Cut The Baby
 In Half

- Write An Ethical
   Report That Allows
   The Attorneys To
   Settle The
   Issue/Case
- Take The High Road ...

### Why I Remain An AME ...

### It Requires ...

- Careful Review Of Available Facts
- Analysis Of The Medical Problem
- Judgment In Contested Areas
- Communication Skills To Explain Your Opinions

Its Important!

### How To Market Yourself As An AME

- "If You Write It ... They Will Come ..."

  Do One Good Report!
- Don't Create Disputes
- If You Disagree ... Say So And ... Explain Your Reasons

### Orthopaedic AME

The Orthopaedic Community

Must Remain

The Force
Behind
Evidence Based Medicine

