## HOW BRE HELPS

#### Early Identification

BRE identifies individuals at risk of opioid misuse or addiction early in the claims process. By screening for mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and risk factors, appropriate interventions and treatment plans can be initiated promptly.

#### Comprehensive Treatment

Integrating behavioral health assessments into workers' compensation programs allows for a more comprehensive and holistic approach to treatment. It recognizes the interconnectedness of physical and mental health and ensures that the underlying psychological factors contributing to opioid use are adequately addressed.

#### Treatment Planning & Monitoring

BRE provides valuable information for developing personalized treatment plans and monitoring progress so healthcare providers can tailor interventions, adjust medication management, and provide appropriate support to promote recovery.

#### Coordination of Care

BRE assessments facilitate coordination among different healthcare providers involved in an injured worker's care. This collaboration ensures that treatment plans align, potential medication interactions are addressed, and any underlying mental health issues are appropriately managed alongside the physical recovery process.



# Reducing Opioids Impact On Claims



The Behavioral Response Evaluation Program provides proactive insights into the impact of opioids on a claimant's recovery and risk factors.



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### Behavioral Response Evaluation

The impact of opioids on workers' compensation claims can be significant, and behavioral health assessments can play a crucial role in addressing this issue.

The Behavioral Response Evaluation program gives case managers, adjusters, and attorneys early indications of potential problems and can help reduce the cost of length of the claim in several ways.

- 1. Increased Costs: Opioid use in workers' compensation claims can lead to increased costs for employers and insurance providers. The expenses associated with opioid prescriptions, monitoring, and managing potential complications can be substantial.

  Moreover, the longer recovery time resulting from opioid dependence can contribute to higher disability costs and lost productivity.
- 2. Prolonged Disability: Opioids can contribute to prolonged disability and absence from work. Workers who are dependent on opioids may experience difficulties in managing their pain, leading to extended time away from work. This can have negative consequences for both the injured worker and the employer, including decreased productivity and increased wage replacement costs.

- 3. <u>Substance Use Disorders</u>: Opioid misuse or prolonged use can result in substance use disorders (opioid addiction) among injured workers. Substance use disorders have wide-ranging implications for both physical and mental health, as well as the ability to function effectively in the workplace. Workers with opioid addiction may require specialized treatment and support to overcome their dependency and resume work.
- 4. Adverse Outcomes: Opioids can contribute to various adverse outcomes in workers' compensation claims. These may include increased risk of overdose, medication interactions, and negative side effects. Additionally, long-term opioid use can hinder the rehabilitative process, impede functional recovery, and limit the success of other interventions aimed at facilitating the return-to-work process.

