



## 2025 CONFERENCE AGENDA

**Wednesday, October 1st**

11:30am - 12:30pm

**Registration - Vendor Display Area Open**

Coffee & Beverages Served

12:30pm - 12:45pm

**Welcome Address & General Announcements**

**David Crawford**, Crawford Evaluation Group - WIWC Forum President

**Chris Behrens**, Ceman, Zitzer & Behrens, S.C. - Moderator

12:45pm - 1:45pm

**What's Behind the Bulge: Exploring Hernia Causation From Strain to Structure**

**Brian Harrison, M.D.**

Dr. Brian Harrison will discuss the nature of hernia injuries, focusing on pre-existing conditions and the mechanisms of injury. He will equip claims adjusters with essential tools for the injury investigation process, enabling them to ask the right questions that will assist their medical experts in forming a well-founded opinion.

1:45pm - 2:00pm

**Afternoon Break - Vendor Display Area Open**

2:00pm - 3:00pm

**Tips and Tricks from Seasoned Adjusters From Claim to Closure**

**Lynne Kossow AIC**, Marsh

**Pamela Wendt, AIC, AIS, AIC-M**, Society Insurance

**Colleen Bertschinger**, Rural Mutual Insurance Company

**Roland Cafaro**, Cafaro Law Offices, S.C. - Moderator

Join us for "From Chaos to Clarity," where our presenters will delve into the art of handling workers' compensation claims. They will cover strategies for addressing claim denials, tips for managing medical records, and techniques for investigating causation. This session will equip you with valuable insights to navigate the workers' compensation journey effectively.

3:00pm - 4:00pm

**Inside the Injured Brain:**

**Navigating Traumatic Brain Injury Through Evaluations, Prognostications & Emerging Pathways In Care**

**Shelly Timmons M.D.**, Froedtert/Medical College of Wisconsin

In this comprehensive session, Dr. Shelly Timmons will explore the evolving landscape of traumatic brain injury. She will present insights into the evolving classification of traumatic brain injury (TBI), transitioning from three to six categories. She will explore promising recovery trajectories and effective treatment pathways while considering the relationship between symptoms and both the injury and potential secondary gain. Dr. Timmons will also discuss diagnostic tools and confirmatory approaches that guide clinical decision-making.

4:00pm - 4:15pm

**Door Prize Giveaway**

Must be present to win

4:15pm - 6:00pm

**Industry Networking Social Hour**

Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres and beverages provided. Our industry's best opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

# 2025 CONFERENCE AGENDA

## Thursday, October 2nd

7:00am - 8:00am

**Registration - Vendor Display Area Open**

8:00am - 8:15am

**Welcome Address & General Announcements**

**David Crawford**, Crawford Evaluation Group - WI WC Forum President

**Christian Venegas**, Doctors of Physical Therapy - AM Moderator

**Jennifer Evans**, City of Milwaukee - PM Moderator

8:15am - 9:15am

**Ten Red Flags Why Injured Workers Call Attorneys Instead of You**

**Attorney Bill Parson**, Hawks Quindel, SC

Top reasons employees seek legal counsel instead of your counsel. The barrage of billboards and commercials from other 'injury attorneys' certainly plants seeds continuously.

9:15am - 10:15am

**From Trauma to Triumph: The Rehabilitation Pathway for Burn Survivors**

**Gerald Nora M.D.**, ClearSky Rehabilitation

**Lori Capener RN**, Stubbe & Associates

Comprehensive review of the burn recovery process that focuses on rehabilitation, potential functional loss, expected outcomes, and restorative care.

10:15am - 10:35am

**Break - Vendor Display Area Open**

10:35am - 11:30am

**Medicare Madness: New Rules, New Risks, and New Realities**

**Attorney Amy Bilton**, Nyhan, Bambrick, Kinzie & Lowrey, PC

**Shawn Kelderman**, Society Insurance

This panel will focus on all aspects of Medicare following the changes to Section 111 reporting requirements made in April. You will hear their insights on what has transpired in the last five months and their predictions for the future as we move toward 2026.

11:30am - 12:45pm

**Lunch and Vendor Break**

12:45pm - 1:30pm

**Keynote Presentation:**

**Charlie Berens**, Comedian

New York Times Best Selling Author, Emmy-winning journalist, and musician best known for creating Midwest-focused sketch videos like his popular series "The Manitowoc Minute" and the hilarious podcasts, "Bellied Up" and "The Cripescast." He has amassed over 10 million followers and over 3 billion views across his social channels thanks to his relatable comedic sensibility and while grounded in Midwest culture, Charlie's material consistently lands on a national level.

1:30pm - 2:40pm

**Osteoarthritis in the Injured Worker: Practical Insights from an Orthopedic Surgeon**

**Matthew Squire, M.D.**, Rush Orthopedics

Dr. Squire will discuss the challenges facing our aging population and workforce. Osteoarthritis, the most common form of arthritis, poses a significant economic burden in the U.S. He will address the risk factors for osteoarthritis and how pre-existing conditions contribute to the question of causation.

2:40pm - 3:00pm

**Vendor Break**

3:00pm - 4:00pm

**Voices from the Bench:**

**Worker's Compensation Administrative Law Judges Address Key Issues You Need To Know About**

**ALJ Lisa Kinney**, Division of Hearings and Appeals - Office of Worker's Compensation Hearings

**ALJ Ben Jones**, Division of Hearings and Appeals - Office of Worker's Compensation Hearings

**ALJ Heide Mallon**, Division of Hearings and Appeals - Office of Worker's Compensation Hearings

**Attorney Lauren Kramer**, Kasdorf, Lewis & Swietlik, SC - Moderator

The Administrative Law Judge panel will give their perspectives on key workers' compensation trends and decisions. Be prepared to present the questions you need answered.

4:00pm - 4:15pm

**Door Prize Giveaway**

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4:15pm - 6:00pm

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