

MRPP Item 12.1 has been amended to add the following:

An employer, worker or a dependant of a deceased worker who is a party to an appeal may request in writing that WCAT retain a health professional to provide independent assistance or advice in the appeal [s. 302(1.2)]. If such a written request is made, the worker's medical condition is in dispute in the appeal, and the presiding member of the panel determines that the independent assistance or advice would assist in reaching a decision, WCAT must retain a health professional to obtain assistance or advice.

A request that WCAT retain a health professional should be made at the earliest practicable time.

MRPP Item 12.2 has been amended to add the following:

A panel seeking assistance from a health professional, whether on its own initiative or as the result of a written request from a party to the appeal, may retain one or more health professionals from the list of independent health professionals established by the chair. If there is no suitable health professional, as determined by the panel, available from the list established by the chair, the panel may retain a health professional who is not on the list and who meets the requirements in s. 301 of the Act.