

Tiffany Anderson
2 North Avena Avenue
Lodi, CA 95240
209-625-8587

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Medical Board of California
Central Complaint Unit

My right knee was injured during work on June 19th, 2008. I initially received care the next day at Dameron Occupational Health Care through August 12th, 2008 (eight total visits). This first treatment provider took a conservative approach and all precautions were taken to make my visits both comfortable and thorough. X-rays were immediately taken along with a complete examination. My first doctor listened to all of my complaints of pain and medical concerns. According to their findings and diagnosis, they gave proper medications to further treat and care for the injury.

The purpose of this letter is to file an official complaint against Dr. Jon L. Eck, who is employed by U.S. HealthWorks in Stockton, California. I was referred to Dr. Eck by my employer on July 6th, 2011. The care that I received from Dr. Eck was negligent in comparison to the care that I received previously in 2008 (see paragraph one).

I will attempt to explain how Dr. Eck's care in 2011 was unprofessional, neglectful, and unethical. On June 29th, 2011, I reinjured my right knee while at work. My right knee struck a metal post. I had undergone two surgeries on this knee since 2008. The metal post tore open the skin on my right knee including a incision point from my previous surgeries. The laceration was from my knee to my ankle. There was also bruising on my right leg and inner thigh. Dr. Eck took no x-rays on that initial visit nor did he thoroughly examine my injured right knee. Dr. Eck asked me to roll up my pant leg rather than actually see my whole leg; as a result he was only able to see up to half of my knee. Dr. Eck then sent me away to return to work, without restrictions. I was still in pain. As a result of releasing me to work, the open wound was exposed to dirty wastewater and pesticides that burned while I was fulfilling the duties of my job. I began to feel sick and experienced flu-like symptoms. Along with the exposure my knee injury was exacerbated by the physical elements of my job. Dr. Eck rescheduled a follow-up appointment for seven days later. I did not trust the lack of concern displayed by Dr. Eck and did not want to return to him for further treatment so I turned to my private physician for further treatment.

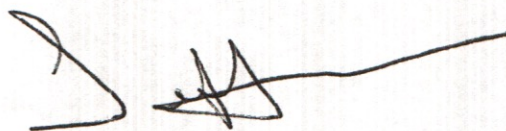
Realizing that this injury would need to be filed with the Division of Workers' Compensation, I returned to Dr. Eck on July 18th, 2011, with symptoms of continued severe knee pain along with new symptoms of fatigue, sore throat, fever and dizziness. Those new symptoms came from a virus; a virus that lasted for 5 months and required three rounds of antibiotics. My private physician's diagnosis was chronic fatigue. At the July 18th office visit with Dr. Eck, he twisted and torqued my knee in every direction, causing the pain to be worse than when I arrived. Dr. Eck again provided no beneficial care and sent me away, in severe pain. Everything I told Dr. Eck about my past surgeries/medical concerns/medical conditions particularly regarding my right knee were ignored, not taken into consideration.

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After the examination, Dr. Eck said he could do nothing more for me and I was again released back to work with no restrictions. Dr. Eck refused to prescribe any medication nor antibiotics to fight any possible infection that I had specifically requested.

I wrote a letter to my manager stating that I did not want to return to see Dr. Eck due to his lack of care and professionalism during my past two visits; he did nothing for me. As Dr. Eck had said he could do nothing more for me, going back to him seemed pointless. I felt hostility right from the start from Dr. Eck and sensed that he had prejudged me from conversations that he had shared with my manager. Dr. Eck spoke directly to my manager several times about my injury; this violates HIPA law. In order to get my industrial injury the proper medical treatment, I contacted the Division of Workers' Compensation Information Assistance office. Pam Meyers of that office then discovered that my manager had never notified the company's insurance provider regarding these visits to Dr. Eck so Workers Compensation had not created a file on this injury. It appears my company paid Dr. Eck / U.S. HealthWorks directly.

Dr. Eck's treatment was unsatisfactory. I believe that his care was unprofessional, negligent, and unethical. Dr Eck's lack of duty to treat me caused additional harm to my medically supported complaint. Returning me to work without restrictions exposed me to actual further harm to my right knee. I respectfully request that your office investigate Dr. Eck and send me a letter to confirm. Thank you.

 11-15-13