



AMA Guides® Editorial Panel

**Virtual Panel Meeting
March 19, 2020**

Topics

- Welcome
- Meeting Mechanics
- Confidentiality/COI Reminders
- Panel Advisor Update
- Subcommittee Update
- Proposal Review Process
- Early Access Program Update
- Closing

Establishment of Quorum

- Attendance will be taken to establish Panel quorum.

Panel Members

Marie Acierno, MD
Helene Fearon, PT
Steven Feinberg, MD
David Gloss, MD
Robert Goldberg, DO

Rita Livingston, MD, MPH
Doug Martin, MD
Kano Mayer, MD
Mark Melhorn, MD
Marilyn Price, MD

Noah Raizman, MD
Michael Saffir, MD
Jan Towers, PhD

Panel Advisors

Chris Brigham, MD

Barry Gelinas, MD, DC

Abbie Hudgens, MPA

Meeting Mechanics

- Panel members and advisors may speak at any time throughout the duration of the event.
- All other attendees are on **listen-only** mode. Attendees on listen-only mode may press *1 to indicate to an operator that they would like to speak.
 - We will periodically pause for comments/questions from the community.
 - The operator will temporarily unmute your line to allow you to speak.
- **NOTE:** The AMA is moving away from the ReadyTalk platform. We will soon be testing new platforms and appreciate your patience through this process.

Confidentiality/COI Reminders

- Confidentiality
 - It is at the discretion of the AMA, the publisher and convener, which topics, news items, or policy decisions resulting from this or any Editorial Panel meeting will be announced publicly at the appropriate time. Until and unless the AMA makes such a public announcement, all discussion and decisions made during AMA Guides® Editorial Panel Meetings are confidential.
 - Please refrain from tweeting or participating in podcasts, interviews, or news articles about Panel meetings, discussions, or deliberations. Recording devices by Panel members and co-chairs is strictly prohibited. The AMA will record all Panel meetings for reference materials and will be the only recording of Panel meetings allowed.
- Conflict of Interest (COI)
 - You are here because of your interest and/or experience with the AMA Guides®, but your affiliations could pose a potential conflict of interest. Please mention all of your disclosures if they are relevant to the topic being discussed or the opinions you hold and express.
 - While you were nominated by a society, remember that your Editorial Panel duty is to the AMA Guides®. You are not here to represent the interests of any society, profession, or employer.

Professional.

Ethical.

Welcoming.

Safe.

- Updated policy in early 2019.
- This is what we expect of our members and guests at AMA-sponsored events.
- We take harassment and conflicts of interest seriously. Read our policy or file a claim at **ama-assn.org/codeofconduct** or call **(800) 398-1496**.

Meeting Cadence and Editorial Priorities Discussion

- Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the AMA team realizes there may be changes in work and personal schedules.
- Do you expect any disruptions in your commitment to the panel?
- Does the current monthly meeting cadence work or should we reassess?
- Do you anticipate any need to change launch timelines and/or editorial priorities (listed below)?
 - DSM-IV → DSM-5 update
 - Chapter 13: Central & Peripheral Nervous System
 - Chapter 17: The Spine
 - Rating Terminology

Editorial Panel Advisor Update

- Judges selected to serve as Advisors to the Panel
- Duties include:
 - Present legal perspective and unique considerations that impact AMA Guides[®] usage in injured worker claims, personal injury cases, court proceedings and medications and other legal matters
 - Serve as an advisor for the AMA Guides[®] on efficient and broader adoption by the legal community
 - Help AMA management in defining the strategy to engage the legal, administrative law and regulatory communities in the AMA Guides[®] Panel process in the future.

Introducing Honorable Shannon Bruno Bishop and Honorable David Langham



Judge Shannon Bruno Bishop
New Orleans, Louisiana

- District judge of the Office of Workers' Compensation in Louisiana
- Presides over workers' comp claims, issuing final judgements and mediator for hundreds of cases



Judge David Langham
Tallahassee, Florida

- Serves as the Deputy Chief Judge of Compensation Claims in Florida
- Over 25 years experience as an attorney, adjudicator, and administrator

Subcommittee Update

- AMA Guides Newsletters and Digital Guides subcommittee membership has been confirmed
- Digital Guides subcommittee will meet tonight after the public meeting concludes
- Guides[®] Newsletter Subcommittee Kickoff occurred on March 9
 - Helene Fearon selected as Lead

Guides[®] Newsletter Update

- Subcommittee kickoff meeting discussed Goals & Objectives, Priorities and SWOT Analysis of the Guides Newsletter in current state
- Robust discussion around utilization, content, purpose/mission and value proposition
- Provide a Plan of Action and Recommendations for full-panel consideration for the May/June meeting. Editorial Panel will make a recommendation to AMA Management for decisions related to the Guides Newsletter.
- **Next steps:** determine what actions and priorities identified in the SWOT analysis the subcommittee should tackle first

Proposal Review Process



Overview



Anticipated Proposals



Review Criteria



Voting



Primary and Secondary Reviewers



Timeline

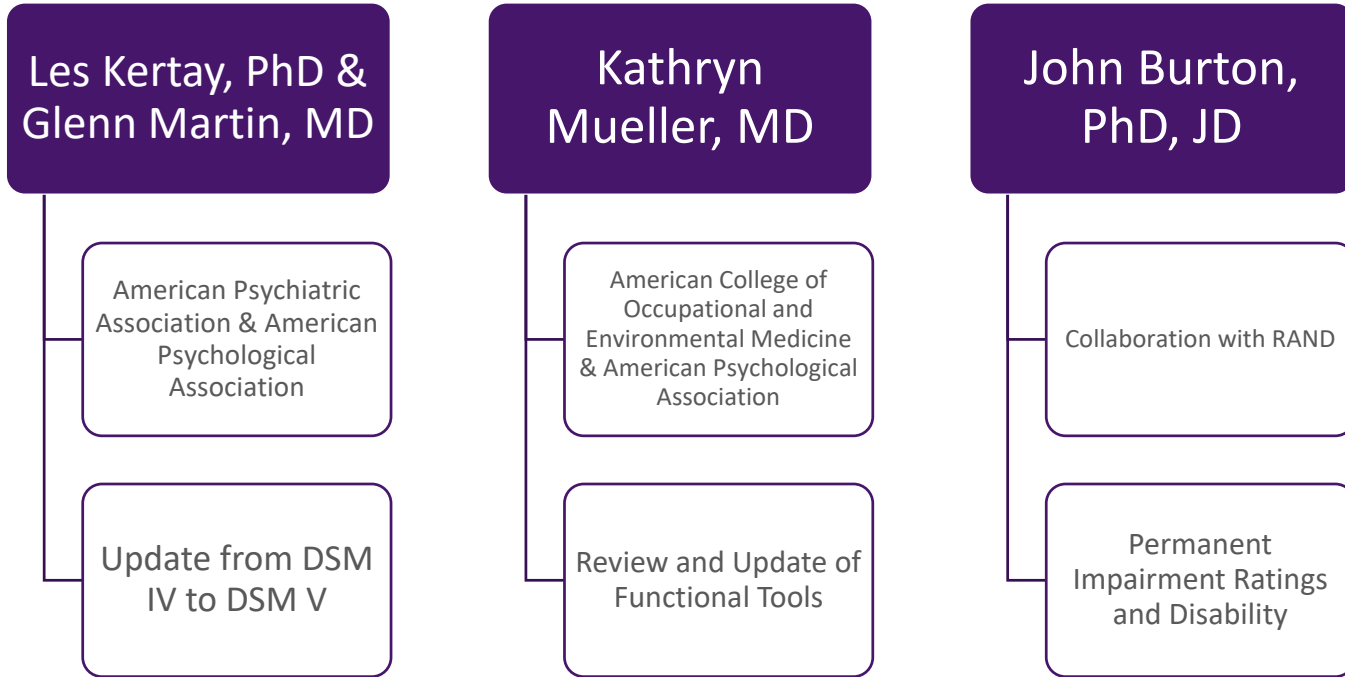


Discussion & Questions

Proposal Review Process: What to Expect

- Proposals are in progress for Panel consideration
- Panel members will vote on tabs at the April 23rd
- Once approved by panel members, proposals will move forward in the editorial process
- First content update will hopefully be completed September 2020

Proposals for Panel Consideration



Review Criteria- AMA Guides®

- Panel members and advisors review based on the following areas outlined in the application:
 - Proposed editorial change is carefully drafted and conforms to the prevailing style of the *AMA Guides*
 - Terminology and the analytical frameworks used in the proposal are consistent with the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF)
 - Structure and content of the proposed editorial change ensures that impairment ratings are transparent, clearly stated, and reproducible, to ensure physician interrater reliability
 - Clinical soundness of the proposed editorial change is demonstrated with the appropriate level of evidence (except in the case of minor editorial changes)
 - Conformity to the template of the diagnosis-based grid (where existing) and from the unified template of the diagnosis-based grid that is common to each organ system and chapter (where existing)

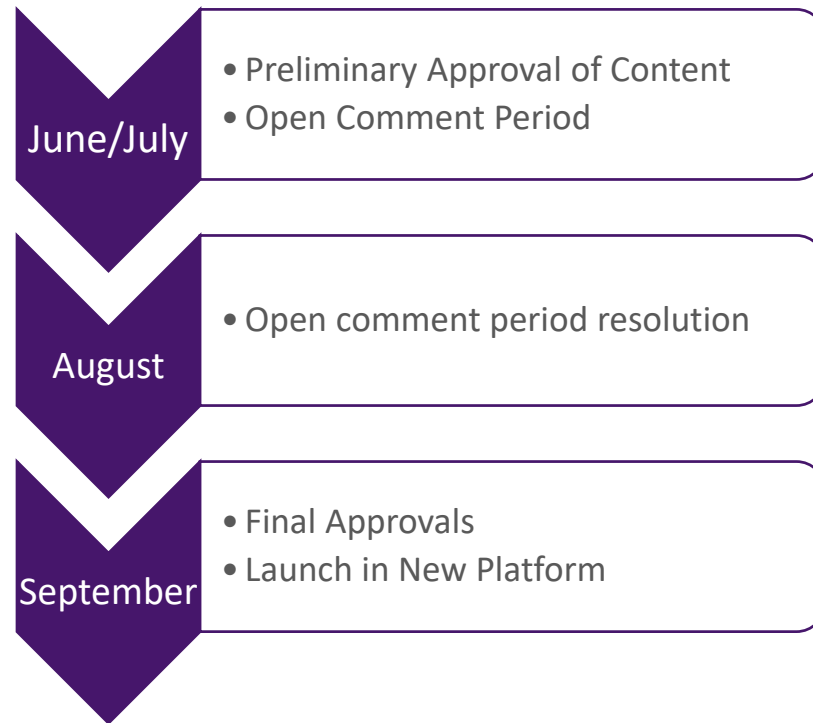
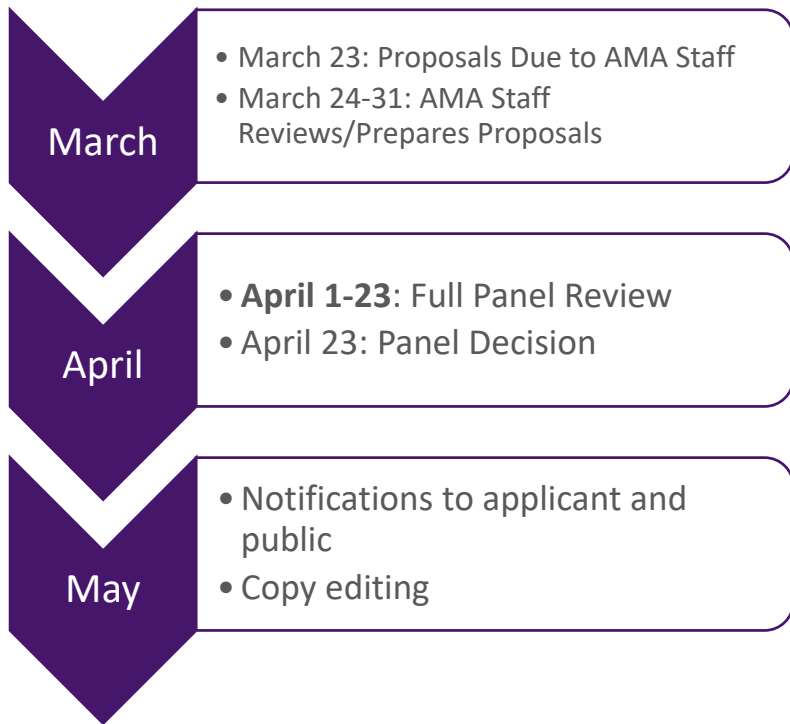
Review Process and Voting

- Proposals will be distributed to Panel Members and Advisors on April 1st
- Each applicant will present the proposal to the full panel at the April 23rd Public Meeting
- Questions and discussion will be solicited amongst Panel Members, Advisors and the Public
- Voting will occur after discussion concludes during public meeting and the co-chair lead on the proposal motions a vote
- Votes will remain anonymous and results will be reported by AMA staff for discussion during the Editorial Panel Executive Session.
- Applicants will receive notification of the decision after the meeting concludes
- Meeting minutes which contain decision outcomes will be published and available to the public once applicants are notified

Primary and Secondary Reviewers

- While all panel members and advisors review, a Primary and Secondary reviewer is assigned to each Proposal
 - Must be an Editorial Panel Member
 - Selected by the Co-Chairs
 - Considerations include specialty and experience with implementing the Guides® in practice
- Primary reviewer summarizes proposal, provides recommendation for action and fosters discussion
- Secondary reviewer provides recommendation for action and fosters discussion
- Full panel, advisors and public encouraged to participate in discussion and ask questions

Timeline*



**subject to changes*



Discussion & Questions

Bukky Ajabe & Priscilla Mpsi, MD
Members since 2016 & 2012

Advocacy & Adoption: Early Access Program

- Rolled out in October 2019, the Early Access Program (EAP) was created to invite state regulators to participate in the development of the next generation of the AMA Guides®
- Objective is to remove barriers to states adopting the most current medicine, without compromising the integrity of the medicine
- State regulators often sit between the medicine and the law, overseeing the resolution of the workers' compensation cases in accordance with state law and permanent impairment rating guidelines (whether the AMA Guides or other guides).
- The EAP offers state regulators:
 - Regular updates on the goings on of the AMA Guides Panel, editorial priorities, and content submissions
 - Opportunities to explain their workflows and challenges to implementation
 - Access to product demos and opportunities to participate in beta testing

Early Access Program

- States that have signed up to participate in the EAP, indicating interest in Guides' next generation strategy:
 - VA, RI, MT, CO, GA, OH, NY, TN, CA
 - New South Wales (Australian Territory)
- First EAP meeting scheduled in late April
 - Gain insight into the claims process
 - Understand how editorial priorities impact the state
 - Assess content gaps not covered by editorial priorities
 - Content release cadence discussion

Closing

- Spring meeting will take place on **April 23, 2020** from 8:30am-4pm CT.
 - AMA Leadership is assessing the situation around live meetings on a day-by-day basis.
 - If you do not feel comfortable traveling to Chicago during this time, there will be options to attend virtually.
 - More information will be provided shortly.