

## Consent Authority

The *WCIMA23* provides for a voluntary consent authority for the collection and disclosure of information related to a worker's injury similar to the 1981 Act.

### Key Points

Act ref: s.25

- To make liability decisions and manage claims, insurers and self-insurers require access to a worker's medical and personal information relevant to the injury or claim. Treating medical practitioners may also need to discuss a worker's medical condition with the worker's employer, their insurer, or other medical and health providers.
- Similar to the 1981 Act, the *WCIMA23* provides for the approved claim form to include an authority for a worker to give consent to the collection and disclosure of the worker's medical, health and personal information relevant to:
  - the worker's injury
  - the worker's claim for compensation or entitlement to compensation
  - injury management for the worker's injury.
- The approved claim form will also include authority for a worker to consent to the disclosure of information collected to a person specified in the authority.

### Questions & Answers

**Q. If I make a workers compensation claim, will my entire medical history be disclosed to the insurer?**

**A.** No. The consent authority is only for the disclosure of information relevant to a worker's injury, claim or entitlement to compensation or for injury management purposes. Irrelevant information cannot be disclosed.

**Q. Is the authority voluntary or mandatory?**

**A.** The authority is voluntary. A worker cannot be compelled to give consent. However, refusing to give consent may compromise an insurer's ability to assess the claim and make a liability decision in a timely manner.