



# myMatrixx monitor

## Year End Roundup

by Steven MacDonald  
Founder, Chairman & CEO



With 2014 rapidly coming to a close, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past year.

Through the hard work of multiple teams throughout the company, we have experienced record revenue and personnel growth. These accomplishments are reflected by our inclusion in both the Tampa Bay Business Journal and Inc. magazine's list of highest revenue earners and fastest growing companies, respectively. As we have grown, we have continued to embrace what makes us exceptional and were honored to be recognized as one of the "Best Places to Work" by Business Insurance for the third consecutive year. In short, our adherence to our core values provided a solid foundation upon

which we were able to successfully balance our growth in multiple areas without sacrificing our exemplary client service.

At this year's National Workers' Compensation and Disability Conference in Las Vegas, we unveiled a more expansive design for our booth that reflects our growing stature in the industry. In addition, our limo service continues to demonstrate our commitment to deliver an unimaginably great customer experience.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone on the myMatrixx team for their hard work, dedication, and

[continued on page 2](#)

## In This Issue

CEO Article	p1
myMatrixx Webinar	p2
Clinical Corner -New Drug Pipeline	p3
Legislative Update	p5
Upcoming Events	p6
WEIWC at NWDC	p7
Conference Wrap Up	p8

good medicine  
for business



willingness to embody our core values. Every day we strive to create a culture that is fun, rewarding, and successful. To our valued clients and vendors, myMatrixx is excited for the partnerships we have forged, and we look forward to continuing our prosperous relationships.

On behalf of myMatrixx, I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy 2015.

*Steve*

Steven MacDonald



**Contact Us:**

**877-804-4900**

[mymatrixx.com](http://mymatrixx.com)

[marketing@mymatrixx.com](mailto:marketing@mymatrixx.com)

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**for news, trends and updates  
in workers' compensation.**

**myMatrixx Webinar Series**

**Catastrophic Injuries & Patient Needs Webinar**

December 16

1:00 p.m. EST | 10:00 am PST

A catastrophic injury is a serious, life changing event which often results in limitations and complications that can last a lifetime. These claims require significant changes to a patients environment, lifestyle and home life.

In this webinar we will address the most common catastrophic claims including:

- Traumatic brain injury
- Spinal cord injury
- Amputations and the use of prosthetic devices
- Severe burns



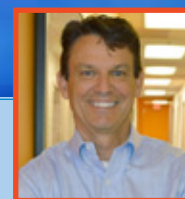
*Presenter:*

**Chuck Sweat**

Vice President for Ancillary Development, myMatrixx

Continuing education credit for RN, CCM and staff adjuster (CA, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, MS, NC, NH, OK, OR, TX, UT, WY) will be available for this live webinar.

[Click here to register](#)



## New Drug and Generic Pipeline

by Alan O. Rook, PharmD

There has been a lot going on regarding new drugs coming into the marketplace! This will have an impact on workers' compensation as well as first

time generic drugs and their upcoming launch dates. We have provided a table for each (new drugs and generics) to allow the claims professional the opportunity to track these medications and their anticipated launch dates.

An authorized generic for OxyContin has been made available to the marketplace, however it will be for a limited quantity and limited time. It is a result of litigation that dates back to 2010, the outcome of which allows for this limited distribution. The quantity will account for approximately 10% of the market and the time-frame will be approximately till early 2015. Unfortunately this means that many will not feel the effect of this decision, because once the quantity is exhausted this authorized generic for OxyContin will not be available.



### New Drug Approvals

Brand Name	Movantik®	Belsomra®	Targiniq ER®	Vogelxo Transdermal Gel®	Bunavail® Buccal Film
Generic Name	Naloxegol	Suvorexant	Naloxone and Oxycodone Extended Release	Testosterone	Buprenorphine and Naloxone
Drug Category	Opioid-induced Constipation	Insomnia	Analgesic-Opioid	Hormone Replacement Therapy	Opioid Dependence
Date of Approval	September 16, 2014	August 13, 2014	July 23, 2014	June 4, 2014	June 6, 2014
Anticipated Availability	First half of 2015	Late 2014 or early 2015	Unknown	Available	Available
Explanation	C-II peripherally acting mu-opioid receptor antagonist	Orexin receptor antagonist	Opioid antagonist and opioid analgesic combination long acting opioid abuse-deterrent formulation	Androgen indicated for testosterone replacement therapy in males for hypogonadism	Opioid analgesic/ opioid antagonist for opioid dependence
Formulary Recommendations	Exclude	Exclude, therapeutic alternatives available	Exclude	Exclude, therapeutic alternatives available	Exclude

[continued on page 4](#)



New Generic Drug Approvals - 1

Brand Name	OxyContin®	Exforge®	Celebrex®	Frova®	Abilify®
Generic Name	Oxycodone HCL extended release (Abuse-deterrent Formulation)	Amlodipine besylate and valsartan	Celecoxib	Frovatriptan succinate	Aripiprazole
Drug Category	Analgesic-Opioid	Hypertension Agent	Analgesics-Anti-inflammatory (NSAID)	Anti-migraine Agent	Antipsychotic Agent
Generic Approval Date	Due to litigation launch of generic was delayed but is now available for a limited period of time. An authorized generic will be available till approximately January 2015 then it will be off the market and back to single source Brand.	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available	Approved May 30, 2014	Generic version has been approved after litigation Mylan can launch generic version contingent on final FDA approval	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available
Anticipated Launch Date	Currently available for limited period	October 2014	December 2014	Late 2014	April 2015

New Generic Drug Approvals - 2

Brand Name	Nexium®	AndroGel 1%	Exforge®	Axert®	Crestor®
Generic Name	Esomeprazole	Testosterone	Amlodipine besylate and valsartan	Almotriptan	Rosuvastatin
Drug Category	Ulcer Drugs	Hormone replacement therapy	Hypertension Agent	Anti-migraine Agent	Lipid Lowering Agent
Generic Approval Date	Ranbaxy has exclusive rights but due to the FDA restricting their use of a facility in India they are delayed obtaining some of the raw materials.	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available	AstraZeneca settlement agreement with Watson Labs resolves patent infringement litigation Watson can begin selling generic version
Anticipated Launch Date	Postponed until June 2015	Postponed until June 2015	October 2014	November 2015	May 2, 2016

New Generic Drug Approvals - 3

Brand Name	Nuvigil®	Zegerid®/Zegerid OTC®	Benicar®/Benicar HCT®	Seroquel XR®	Zyvox®
Generic Name	Armodafinil	Omeprazole / Sodium bicarbonate capsule and oral suspension	Olmesartan / Olmesartan and Hydrochlorothiazide	Quetiapine extended release tablet	Linezolid
Drug Category	Stimulant	Proton Pump Inhibitor and antacid	Hypertension Agent	Antipsychotic	Antibiotic
Generic Approval Date	Mylan plans to sell generic	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available	Generic version has been approved but not commercially available
Anticipated Launch Date	June 2016	July 2016	October 2016	November 2016	Late 2016



# Medical Marijuana Scientific Research

By Jaelene Fayhee, Compliance and Government Affairs Director



**Legislative interest in medical marijuana health research is not unexpected given we are on the tipping point of having a majority of states approve medical marijuana laws.**

In 2014 Colorado legislators adopted [SB 155](#) establishing the Colorado Medical Marijuana Grant Program within the State Board of Health. This bill allows additional medical research on the potential therapeutic benefits of marijuana and its component parts in order to:

1. Add new debilitating medical conditions to Colorado's medical marijuana law; and
2. Help physicians better understand the biochemical effects of prescribed medical marijuana.

The bill authorizes the State Treasurer to transfer funds from the Medical Marijuana Program Cash Fund to the newly created Health Research Subaccount. Funding will expire in July 2019.

**SB 155 also established a Medical Marijuana Scientific Advisory Committee.**

*The Council duties are to:*

- Provide policy guidance in the creation and implementation of the Medical Marijuana Research Grant Program.
- Provide scientific oversight and review research proposals to the Medical Marijuana Research Grant Program.
- Ensure objectivity in evaluation of research proposals and provide a peer review process that guards against funding research that's biased in favor of or against particular outcomes.
- Submit recommendations to the Department of Public Health and Environment and the Board of Health for recommended grant recipients, grant amounts and grant duration.
- Serve as the ad hoc medical advisory panel to review petitions and make recommendations to the Department regarding the addition of medical conditions for which patients may receive a medical marijuana registration card.

[continued on page 6](#)



**In 2014 Colorado legislators adopted SB 155 establishing the Colorado Medical Marijuana Grant Program within the State Board of Health.**



The members appointed to the Council are listed [here](#).

### RESEARCH CHALLENGES

Because medical marijuana is a Schedule I drug, to obtain the drug legally researchers must apply to the FDA, DEA and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. In May 2014, the DEA issued **new rules** to increase the government's production of marijuana for research this year to 650,000 grams from 21,000 grams. The notice stated "The aggregate production quota for marijuana should be increased in order to provide a continuous and uninterrupted supply of marijuana in support of DEA-registered researchers who are approved by the Federal Government to utilize marijuana in their research protocols."

Last June 30 members of Congress sent a **letter** to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services expressing support for increasing scientific research on the therapeutic risks and benefits of marijuana given the number of states with medical marijuana laws and the number of patients using medical marijuana.\*

Additional scientific research on medical marijuana is certain to be of interest to workers' compensation stakeholders challenged with balancing state laws that legalize a drug that is classified as an illegal drug at the federal level.

\*Medical marijuana state law resources:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/state-laws-related-to-marijuana>

<http://www.namsdl.org/marijuana.cfm>

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/state-medical-marijuana-laws.aspx>

## Upcoming Events

check out the following events myMatrixx will be attending:

### New York Self Insured Annual Meeting (NYSIA)

January 14-16

### DWC - Los Angeles, Division of Workers' Compensation Educational Conference

February 9-10

### PARMA - Public Agency Risk Managers Annual Conference

February 8-11

### DWC - Oakland, Annual Division of Workers' Compensation Educational Conference

February 19-20

### Combined Claims Conference

March 10-11





## WEIWC at NWCDC

After 18 months of brainstorming and planning, the Women Executives in Workers' Compensation (WEIWC) hosted their inaugural conference as a precursor to the 2014 National Workers' Compensation and Disability Conference & Expo in Las Vegas—and what a success it was! Over 100 thought leaders from across the industry attended the event, and the energy and feedback generated has been extraordinarily positive.

**Artemis Emslie**, myMatrixx President and WEIWC Founder, attributes the event's success to the group's board members who shared her vision of creating a think tank for leaders who are committed to discussing challenges and driving change in the workers' comp industry. This group met and collaborated several times over the past year and a half to define the group's mission, charter, and action plans on how to accomplish WEIWC's goals of sharing ideas across all areas of the industry and of mentoring future female leaders.

"Throughout my career I have had the great fortune of being surrounded by influential leaders—both men and women. I am indebted to those who have shared their time, talents, and industry knowledge with me. The idea for WEIWC was formed in recognition of the positive impact of

these mentors and from my desire to pay it forward and continue the tradition of guidance and support," stated Emslie.

The conference included industry insights and an entertaining, informative panel discussion from key leaders who shared their insightful views from the top.

*A special thank you to:*

**Kimberly George**, SVP, Corporate Development, M&A Healthcare, Sedgwick

**Lisa Hannusch**, CEO and Owner, UniMed Direct

**Shelley Boyce**, CEO and Founder, MedRisk

**Danielle Lisenbey**, CEO, Broadspire

**Eileen Auen**, Executive Chairperson, Helios

**Matrice Ellis-Kirk**, Board of Directors, RSR Partners

The panel discussion was followed by a Q&A session and lively table discussions from all the attendees on topics ranging from leadership and personal growth to influence and innovation. The event concluded with a networking cocktail reception.



To learn more about WEIWC, please visit [www.weiwc.org](http://www.weiwc.org).





## National Workers' Compensation & Disability Conference Conference 2014 Wrap Up

myMatrixx was once again a sponsor and exhibitor at the National Workers' Compensation & Disability Conference held November 19-21.

With Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas as the host site, the conference attracted over 3000 attendees. At the conference, myMatrixx unveiled a new and expansive booth design and an expanded limo service, which supplied first-class transportation for more than 20% of all conference attendees--with nearly 500 rides provided from the airport on Tuesday alone.

While it may be impossible to quantify the number of people who saw our limos at work, there is no question that the value of the service left a very positive impression on our clients and other guests. Special recognition goes to Lauri Giamporcaro for her incredible work coordinating the entire limo service from start to finish.

*"As usual, an outstanding service provided by myMatrixx. Very impressive how you have created this particular "brand" and "name recognition" that is associated with the NWCDC. Nicely done."*

–Carlos Navarro  
COO Innovative Claims Strategies LLC

Here are some scenes we captured at the conference.

