WOMEN BUSINESS LEADERS

The Right Care at the Right Time by the Right Provider

EK Health Services, Inc. | Workers' Compensation Solutions Company

People are often surprised to learn that Eunhee Kim, RN, MSN, continues to manage workers' compensation cases even though she is now the chief executive of two companies.



Eunhee Kim, CEO

"Why wouldn't I?" she says. "That way, I can see what's working and what's not working, what we need to enhance. That's an important difference we bring to the table."

"We really appreciate the response time and insight you have provided to us." – Workers' Compensation claims manager, Fortune 500 Company

Kim is CEO of workers' compensation solutions company EK Health Services, Inc. and its sister company, DataCare Corporation, which provides the necessary technology to facilitate the most appropriate, highest quality and most cost-efficient medical treatment for injured workers. Both are based in San Jose, California, but serve clients nationwide, with the ability to meet the regulatory requirements of all 50 states.



Navigating a Complex Landscape

A former home health nurse specializing in medical case management, Kim started EK Health in 1998. She brings to bear more than 20 years' experience in navigating the extremely complex workers' compensation landscape. The goal with every claim, she says, is "the right care, consistent with evidence-based treatment guidelines, at the right time by the right provider."

Kim says the company's "360-degree approach" looks at each claim "in totality," with an emphasis on accurate, timely – and automated – communication among the many organizations and individuals that may play a role in each claim. It offers tailored solutions to meet the unique needs of each client.

EK Health's clients are self-insured employers, insured employers, insurance companies, third-party administrators and public entities. Kim and her experienced team are highly sensitive to the needs of injured workers, payers and providers alike, recognizing that taking care of the injured employee, facilitating quality care and working closely with all parties involved results in the strongest outcomes.

"For everyone here – our nurses, our doctors, even our technology team at DataCare – the patients are in the forefront. Many of them need a wide variety of services, including disability payments and medical care, over a prolonged period, and we do everything possible to ensure their needs are met in a timely manner. If there is a miscommunication, if that fax doesn't get there in time, necessary treatment or a much-needed disability check could

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be delayed." EK Health understands that by focusing on the injured worker and facilitating appropriate care, cost containment is achieved. By returning injured employees to work faster, avoiding litigation and maintaining strong employer/employee relationships, EK Health aims to benefit all of the stakeholders in the process.

"My medical needs were addressed for a speedy recovery. I am blessed to have the best nurse case manager!" – Injured worker

Looking back at her journey as a nurse entrepreneur, Kim says she has often felt "disadvantaged in business situations" as a woman and a minority. She firmly believes the workers' compensation industry needs to do more to help women and minorities advance to the "upper echelons." This is another area where Kim's passion is helping to positively transform managed care.

Despite the obstacles she has encountered over the years, Kim has persevered, continually striving for "selfimprovement" and building a team – and two companies – she is deservedly proud of. "I went into nursing and I started my companies because I wanted to make a difference in the lives of patients and clients," she says. By all accounts, she has more than succeeded.