

Table 1 (P58): Illustration of the coding tree for generating the transcript of the meta-review on IMEs. This will serve as the starting point for a qualitative analysis.

Level 1 8 Domains	Level 2 Sub-domains (n)		Level 3 Items (n)
	n	Examples	
0. Definition	—	—	—
I. Objectives	9	Adjudicate claims [I.1.]; establish restrictions [I.7.]; establish maximal medical improvement [I.8.];	—
II. Contextual Issues	5	Limitations of treating physicians [II.1.]; medical vs. non-medical factors [II.4.]	—
III. Problems	10	Partiality of IMEs assessors [III.1.], lack of standards [III.2.]; lack of transparency [III.5.]	25
IV. Ways to improve	9	Ensure impartiality of assessors [VI.1.]; standards for IME performance [IV.3]	36
V. Patients' rights & Ethics	5	Disclosure policies [V.1.]; consent forms [V.2.]; duty of care by IME assessors [V.4.]	—
VI. Legal issues	7	Legal challenges to IME in court [VI.1.]; doctor-patient relationship [VI.4.]; legal guidelines [VI.6.]	—
VII. Business	4	How to set up an IME business [VII.1.]; IMEs are financially lucrative [VII.4.]	6
	49		67
Total of 117 codes			