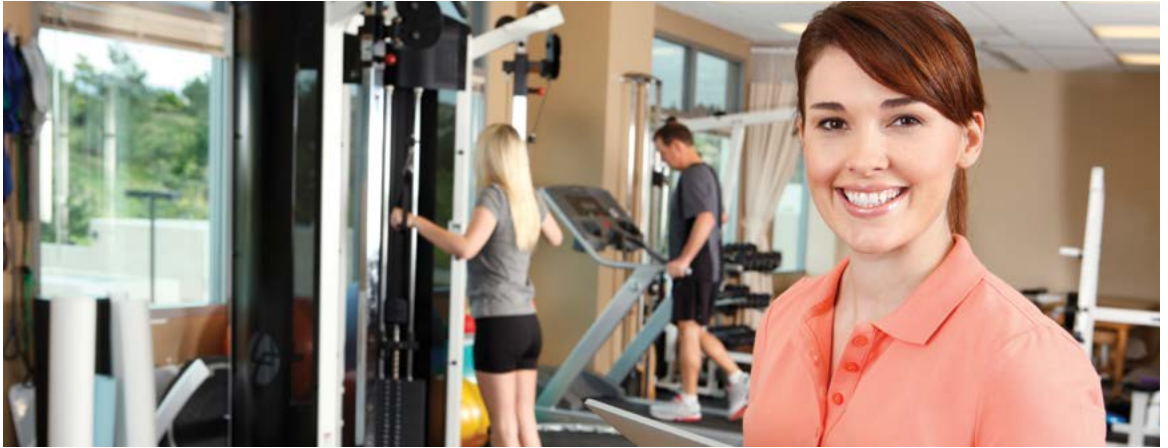


Occupational Rehabilitation Intervention

What are the benefits?



What is occupational rehabilitation?

Occupational rehabilitation, provided by an independent return to work professional helps injured workers return to safe and productive work following a workplace injury. Occupational rehabilitation providers have an Allied Health background with expertise in dealing with workplace injuries. They engage key parties to achieve a positive return to work outcome as well as a safe workplace.

For employers, occupational rehabilitation means:

- Helping workers deal with workplace injury and returning to work;
- Retaining a skilled workforce;
- Controlling the costs of workplace injury, eg by getting workers back to work in a safe and timely manner.

Occupational rehabilitation providers can tailor services specific to your workplace. They can deliver one off services or develop a range of services that will assist your needs.

For workers, occupational rehabilitation means:

- Faster recovery and return to health;
- Minimal disruption to family, social and working life;
- Improved physical and psychological condition and confidence about returning to work;
- Earlier return to productive work;
- Job and financial security.

What do occupational rehabilitation providers do?

Occupational rehabilitation service provision is largely provided at the workplace by:

- Identifying and designing appropriate duties for the worker, to help the employer meet their obligations in providing suitable employment;
- Identifying and coordinating rehabilitation strategies that ensure the worker is able to safely perform their duties;
- Promoting an early return to work for the employee;
- Forging the link between Allianz, the employer, the worker's nominated treating doctor and treatment providers to ensure integration of all injury management activities with a focus on returning to work;
- Arranging appropriate retraining and placement in alternative employment when the worker is unable to return to pre-injury duties;
- Ensuring all aspects that have an impact on the worker returning to work are considered;
- Identifying both the physical and psychological barriers toward a return to work and working together to overcome these barriers.

Does occupational rehabilitation work?

Engaging a WorkSafe approved occupational rehabilitation provider as soon as practicable sets an expectation that there will be an early return to work. When assistance is offered in a positive and proactive way, it provides support to the worker and improves the likelihood of early return to work.

A return to work comparison of claims with and without rehabilitation showed that workers with a personalised program providing modified duties and a graduated return to pre-injury duties were able to resume their pre-injury duties more quickly than workers with no support.

What are the benefits of occupational rehabilitation?

Occupational rehabilitation can help reduce the occurrence and impact of injuries and achieve sustained and successful return to work for your employees.

Other benefits include:

- Tailored services to your specific workplace;
- Reduced claims costs;
- Minimise impact on premium;
- Assist with prevention strategies;
- Increase probability sustained return to work;
- Improved identification of suitable duties;
- Improve return to work performance;
- A healthy and productive workforce.

Which occupational rehabilitation provider do I use?

Allianz has set service standards with a number of WorkSafe approved occupational rehabilitation providers over a wide geographical area. The service standards define the service expectations for the provision of occupational rehabilitation services and identifies how these expectations will be measured.

Together with you, Allianz will identify the most appropriate occupational rehabilitation provider to work with your organisation.

Flexibility

Occupational rehabilitation providers can tailor services specific to your workplace. They can deliver one off services or develop a range of services that will assist your needs.

Further Information

For further information on implementing an early intervention model or specific strategies, through the use of an occupational rehabilitation provider, please contact your Allianz case manager direct or call 1800 240 335.

Allianz Australia Workers Compensation
(Victoria) Limited
As agent for the Victorian WorkCover Authority.

