

Development and Dissemination of a Physical Therapy Best Practices Guide for Disability Management of Injured Workers

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The Partners

- University of Alberta – Dept. of Physical Therapy
- College of Physical Therapists of Alberta
- Alberta Physiotherapy Association
- Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta
- CIHR funding partner
- Rhoda Reardon, KT Associate, IWH



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Challenges and Project Drivers



Little academic training on RTW for PTs



Meager RTW outcomes from clinic-based PT



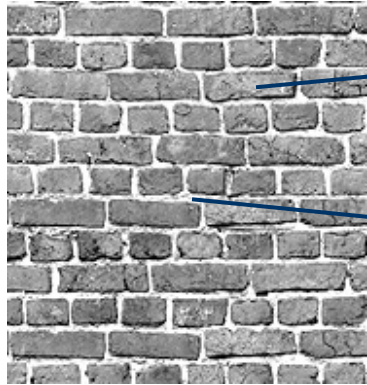
Public complaints re: PT management of workers



Overall challenge for the profession

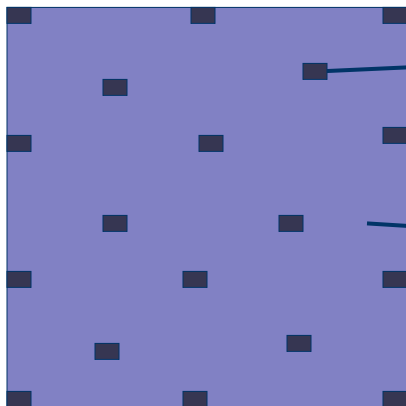
Phase One – Develop a Guide

- Understand the Evidence



Scientific
Certainty

Clinical
Expertise



Scientific
Certainty

Clinical
Expertise

Phase One – Developed a Guide

- Understand the Evidence
- Understand Current Practice
- Knowledge Translation Workshop
- Involve Educationally Influential PTs



Educationally Influential Clinicians

- Peer nomination through email survey
- PTs who are believed to have excellent:
 - 1) Technical skills
 - 2) Teaching abilities
 - 3) Humanistic characteristics
- Involved in workshop
- Provided feedback on guide
- Assist ongoing knowledge transfer & exchange



CD-ROM Contents:

Guide

Measures

Funder Info/Resources

Clinical Tips/ Scenarios

General Supplementary
Resources



Disability Management of Injured Workers

A best practices resource guide for physical therapists

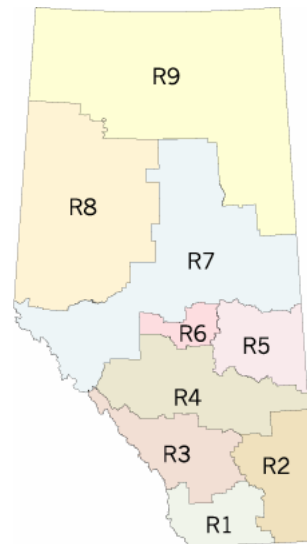
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Alberta Physiotherapy Association
Workers' Compensation Board - Alberta

Phase Two - Knowledge Transfer

- Profession led - WCB not involved
- EIs - Coordinated orientation sessions
 - Informal teaching/ exchange/ dialogue
 - "Credibility" for clinicians

Orientation Sessions

**Each Health Region
EI Involvement**



Phase Two - Knowledge Transfer

- CD-ROM mail-out
- Publicly Available on CPTA Website
Living Document



Phase Two - Knowledge Transfer

- Incorporation into Academic Program
- Articles in APA and CPTA publications
- Project Evaluation

Barriers

- PT's perceptions of their role in DM
- Organization's mandates and roles
- Organizational processes and staff changes
- Environmental context (languages, geography, varied industry participation)
- Resources – administrative and financial

Contact

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