

Effect of Functional Capacity Evaluation (FCE) on return to work decisions in temporary employees on sick leave due to musculoskeletal complaints.

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The aim of this study is to evaluate the effect of FCE information on the return to work assessment in temporary employees on sick leave due to musculoskeletal complaints.

Ethical review	Approved WMO
Status	Pending
Health condition type	Other condition
Study type	Observational non invasive

Summary

ID

NL-OMON31006

Source

ToetsingOnline

Brief title

Effect of FCE methods in return to work decisions.

Condition

- Other condition

Synonym

Musculoskeletal disorders

Health condition

klachten aan het bewegingsapparaat

Research involving

Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Academisch Medisch Centrum

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Stichting Instituut GAK

Intervention

Keyword: Functional Capacity Evaluation, Musculoskeletal complaints, Physical work-ability, Temporary employees

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

1. Choice of return to work outcomes: 1) return to former job and autonomous recovery, 2) return to former job and no-autonomous recovery, 3) return to other job without assistance, 4) return to other job with assistance
2. Assessment of own physical work-ability by temporary employee
3. Time (in weeks) that the temporary employee expects to be able to return to work in former or other job
4. Time (in weeks) that the insurance physician expects that the temporary employee will return to work in former or other job
5. Information from the FCE rapport that led the choice for one of the return to work outcomes

Secondary outcome

Based on semi-structured interview performed by the researchers, process parameters will be assessed in order to check whether the UWV-team received, studied and/or discussed the FCE results.

Study description

Background summary

Occupational professionals do not possess many instruments to assess physical work-ability, relying mostly on information provided by the physical examination and the patient's anamnesis. Functional Capacity Evaluation (FCE) are safe performance-based assessments striving to report objectively and systematically the current physical work-ability of individuals suffering from musculoskeletal complaints.

Consequently, the use of FCE information could be of complementary value for insurance physicians in the assessment of physical work-ability of temporary employees on sick leave due to musculoskeletal complaints. Moreover, performing an FCE assessment might result in a different view of a patient on his own physical work-ability.

Study objective

The aim of this study is to evaluate the effect of FCE information on the return to work assessment in temporary employees on sick leave due to musculoskeletal complaints.

Study design

An experimental cross-over design with pre- and post-test is used in this study. Participants are temporary employees and UWV-teams formed by one insurance physician, one work expert and one return to work counsellor. Half of the UWV-teams starts as experimental groups and half as control groups. After the experimental group has assessed (with FCE information) 60 temporary employees, this group becomes its own control group (cross-over). The same is true for the control group (becoming then the experimental group). After the pre-test assessed by the UWV-team, the temporary employee from the experimental group is assessed on FCE. The FCE rapport is then given to the UWV-team for the post-test. The temporary employees in the control group are not assessed on FCE.

Study burden and risks

The risk in participating in the study is minimal: activities assessed through an FCE are activities that occur in many jobs and in daily life. All participants can withdraw at any moment from the study and the burden during FCE assessment depends directly on the participant's own perception. Furthermore, FCE are assessed by trained and certificated evaluators.

Contacts

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Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

Inclusion criteria

- (1) 18 years old or older
- (2) on sick leave due to musculoskeletal disorders
- (3) expected sick leave for at least 6 weeks
- (4) able to fill in Dutch questionnaires

Exclusion criteria

Contra-indications for Ergo-Kit FCE assessment.

Study design

Design

Study type:	Observational non invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Non-randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Diagnostic

Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Pending
Start date (anticipated):	01-02-2008
Enrollment:	120
Type:	Anticipated

Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC Amsterdam UMC

Study registrations

Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

In other registers

Register	ID
CCMO	NL19130.018.07