

ISR Physical Therapy

FCE TIP OF THE MONTH

January, 2010









COMPONENTS TO LOOK FOR IN A FCE

1.) Number of cross checks to determine consistency of effort. A good FCE must have cross checks to determine if the individual is giving their best effort. Otherwise the individual will simply not try on the evaluation and appear to be more disabled than they actually are.

2.) Peer review. Tests for symptom magnification behavior and disability magnification behavior should be based on peer reviewed published literature. Precedent has been set in the courts that opinion based on peer reviewed and published literature will be weighted higher than the subjective opinion of a medical evaluator.

3.) Experience of the evaluator. This is a critical component of the FCE process. How many FCE's has the evaluator performed? Do they have experience in performing physical job demand validations (job site analysis)? Do they have experience in work-site ergonomics? Have they qualified in court as an expert in functional capacity evaluations? A well-experienced evaluator will not only be able to better reveal an individual's true work ability but will be more capable of assisting you in court should the need arise.

4.) Ease of accessing the information. Is the report easily read? Can you pull the critical information out of the report in a timely manner? Is the opinion of the evaluator clearly stated? The port that is easy to follow will assist all parties involved in expediting the decision making process.

5.) Report turn around time. A good FCE protocol should have their reports in the mail within three business days. This will assist in returning the individual back to work or some type of gainful employment and there by reducing the amount of workers compensation benefits paid to the individual. It is also usually in the best interest of the individual to return them to the work force quickly to reduce the depression and mental disassociation from the work force that occurs with prolonged absences.

ABOUT OUR EVALUATORS:

Richard W. Bunch PhD, PT, CBES

Founder and CEO, of ISR Institute, Partner of ISR Physical Therapy of Houma & Harahan

Dr. Bunch is the founder and developer of the WorkSaver FCE system, a nationally renowned professional speaker, author and consultant on the topics of wellness, ergonomics, injury prevention and injury management. He is also the coauthor of the book, *Conversations in Health and Wellness*.

Trevor D. Bardarson PT, OCS, CSCS, CBES

Clinic Director, Houma, Partner of ISR Physical Therapy of Houma & Harahan

Trevor is a Board Certified Orthopedic Specialist in physical therapy and Certified Behavioral Based Ergonomic Specialist. He is also Certified in Mechanical Diagnosis and Therapy of the Spine by the McKenzie Institute USA, is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, and is currently the Training Director for the Worksaver FCE Protocol. Mr. Bardarson is also the Vice President of Clinical Operations for Indutrial Safety and Rehabilitation Institute and Clinic Director/Partner of ISR Physical Therapy of Houma, LLC.

Marc Cavallino, MPT, OCS

Clinic Director & Partner of ISR Physical Therapy Harahan

Marc completed his Masters of Physical Therapy at Emory University in 2001. Marc is a Board Certified Orthopedic Specialist in Physical Therapy. He has had the opportunity to work with a variety of orthopedic conditions and is experienced in FCEs, work conditioning, sports injuries as well as back and neck injuries.





