

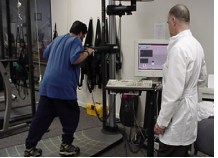
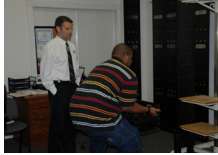


ISR Physical Therapy

FCE TIP OF THE MONTH
January, 2011

Interpreting Non-Objective Signs of Disability Magnification Behavior (DMB)

A functional capacity evaluation (FCE), like any other medical evaluation, involves both objective and non-objective methods of assessment (also referred to as the art and science of the evaluation). A skilled functional capacity evaluator knows how to look for verbal and non-verbal cues of disability magnification behavior (DMB). DMB is a form of non-organic illness behavior that does not correlate with known physiological patterns of injury or illness. DMB is more likely to exist when there are well defined secondary gain issues related to work avoidance, attention seeking, financial settlements, and desire for early retirement or long term disability, to name a few. Although there are numerous objective measurements that are used to identify DMB, non-objective signs of DMB are also important to reinforce the impression by the evaluator. Some of the many non-objective signs include failure to show any improvement in condition despite various and numerous medical interventions (“nothing helps” attitude), denial of ability to work at any physical demand level with or without restrictions, duration of disability greatly exceeds the normal recovery expectancy time, eye avoidance when talking about symptoms and /or work capacities, defensive behaviors such as anger directed at the employer, healthcare provider, “the system” etc., over-emphasis on how symptoms control life, lack of concern about remedy, acting as a victim, overly emphasizing how truthful they are, frequent references to religious beliefs, and marked improvement in behavior and movement quality when not being directly examined. Although none of the non-objective signs taken alone would be sufficient or reliable to form a final impression of DMB, the experienced and skilled FCE evaluator will take all non-objective signs into account, along with results of objective testing, prior to forming a final impression as to the validity of effort given during the FCE. For more information on FCEs conducted by skilled and experienced physical therapists, call ISR Physical Therapy.



Houma West
478 Corporate Dr.
Houma, LA 70360
985-872-5911

Houma East
814 Grand Caillou Rd.
Ste. 17
Houma, LA 70363
985-346-0383

New Orleans
1516 River Oaks Rd. W.
Harahan, LA 70123
504-733-2111

www.isrphysicaltherapy.com



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 founder and CEO of ISR Institute. He is a nationally renowned professional speaker, author and consultant on the topics of wellness, ergonomics, injury prevention and injury management.



Trevor D. Bardarson PT, OCS, CSCS
Clinic Director, Houma, Partner of ISR Physical Therapy of Houma & Harahan

Trevor is a Board Certified Orthopedic Specialist 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 Industrial 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. He has had the opportunity since his graduation to work with a variety of orthopedic conditions and is experienced in FCEs, work conditioning, sports injuries as well as back and neck injuries.