

# Why Cooperate with a Prompt Return to Work Program?

## What is Prompt Return to Work?

Prompt Return to Work (PRTW) is a team approach to getting an injured worker back to work as soon as medically possible. The team consists of the worker's employer or supervisor, vocational rehabilitation counselor, LUBA's claims adjuster, injured worker and the assigned physician.

### Primary Goals:

- Aid employer in retaining employee
- Get employee back to work ASAP
- Devise a treatment plan to get employee back to pre-injury job
- Proper utilization of the Workers' Compensation system

## Key Components of the Program:

- Commitment to the program by all parties involved
- Consistent application
- Prompt medical care following injury
- Continuous communication between physicians, employers, adjusters, vocational rehab professional and employer
- Effective and appropriate medical treatment
- Total cooperation with Vocational Rehab Personnel

## How you help the policyholder?

### *Avoided cost impact:*

- Cost of replacing the injured worker
- Cost of hiring temp employees
- Cost of training new staff
- Reduced productivity
- Poor morale

### *Injured worker's impact:*

- Limited loss of income
- No loss of self worth
- Builds loyalty
- Increases belief in the company's desire to do what is best for the employee
- Prompt Return to Work can also have a positive impact on a policyholder's workers' comp premium.

## Extra Information:

- The *American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons* and the *American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* both support safe prompt return to work programs.
- An injured employee off work longer than six months has a 50% chance of never returning to their job.
- As the medical provider you are responsible for doing what is in the best interest of the injured worker by determining their work restrictions. It is their employer's responsibility to offer them an alternate duty position or return them to their pre-injury job.

For more information on our *Prompt Return to Work Program* contact the LUBA Care Department at (888)-884-5822 or [lubacare@lubawc.com](mailto:lubacare@lubawc.com)