

Validation of Musculoskeletal Occupational Claims (VMOC)

Taking the guesswork out of questionable workers compensation claims



About claim validation

Our evaluations take the guess work out of causality and present factual documentation on such root causes as repetition, force and posture to determine if the claimant's risk factors could rise to a level that would result in the claimed musculoskeletal injury. We use evidence-based practices in the field of ergonomics and human factor engineering to evaluate a claim whereby work causality is questionable. This service is particularly effective with claims that report cumulative trauma as the mechanism of injury and the job performed do not appear to have risk factors that would cause the alleged musculoskeletal injury.

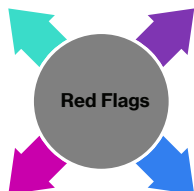
Types of red flags for claim validation

Job Design:

- Low production
- Job rotation
- Ergonomically designed
- Good work/rest cycles
- Expanded cycle times greater than 30 seconds

Accident Details:

- No witnesses
- No specific event
- All jobs ever done
- Vague description
- Unclear of accident date
- Multiple body parts



Claim Filing:

- Delayed reporting
- Attorney retained
- Different versions of incident
- Reported under medical benefits initially
- Production demands stated differ from actual data
- Body parts change over the course of the claim

Performance:

- Poor performer
- Not meeting quality standards
- High absenteeism
- FMLA exhausted
- New hire

How it works

Our team of highly experienced and certified ergonomists work with claim adjusters and our client to pre-qualify red flag cases that are in question. This includes an initial screening of the employee's tasks and jobs, the accident report, recorded statement and the production requirements for the tasks performed at the time of the reported injury.

Claim validation framework

Qualification

Evaluation

Validation

This aids in ensuring that we are deployed on cases that match our service qualifiers. The case is then assigned to a professional ergonomist that will travel onsite to assess the employee and job related to the reported claim. At this point the ergonomist will conduct a full assessment of the ergonomics risk factors associated with the case, including production demands, time-motion study and measurements. A report is written and submitted to the adjuster for claim adjudication.



The process is as follows:

Step 1:	Consultant travels to the location.
Step 2:	Production and absenteeism data from the employee are pulled.
Step 3:	Employee is evaluated according to ergonomics and human factors scientific principles. If the employee is out of work, a similar employee is assessed performing the identical tasks.
Step 4:	Work from home employees are evaluated virtually.
Step 5:	The data is benchmarked against NIOSH work-relatedness standards (NIOSH Publication Number 97-141).
Step 6:	The report is submitted to the claim adjuster for adjudication.
Step 7:	Invoice is sent the adjuster for payment.

About our team

The Validation of Musculoskeletal Occupational Claims Service (VMOC) team is led by accomplished certified ergonomics professionals with decades of experience helping clients on cases whereby work-related causality is called into question.

We pride ourselves in our commitment to quality, integrity and evidence-based practices.

To learn more about VMOC contact our team:

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