

Development and Dissemination of a Physical Therapy Best Practices Guide for Disability Management of Injured Workers

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The Partners

- University of Alberta – Dept. of Physical Therapy
- College of Physical Therapists of Alberta
- Alberta Physiotherapy Association
- Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta
- CIHR funding partner
- Rhoda Reardon, KT Associate, IWH



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Challenges and Project Drivers



Little academic training on RTW for PTs



Meager RTW outcomes from clinic-based PT



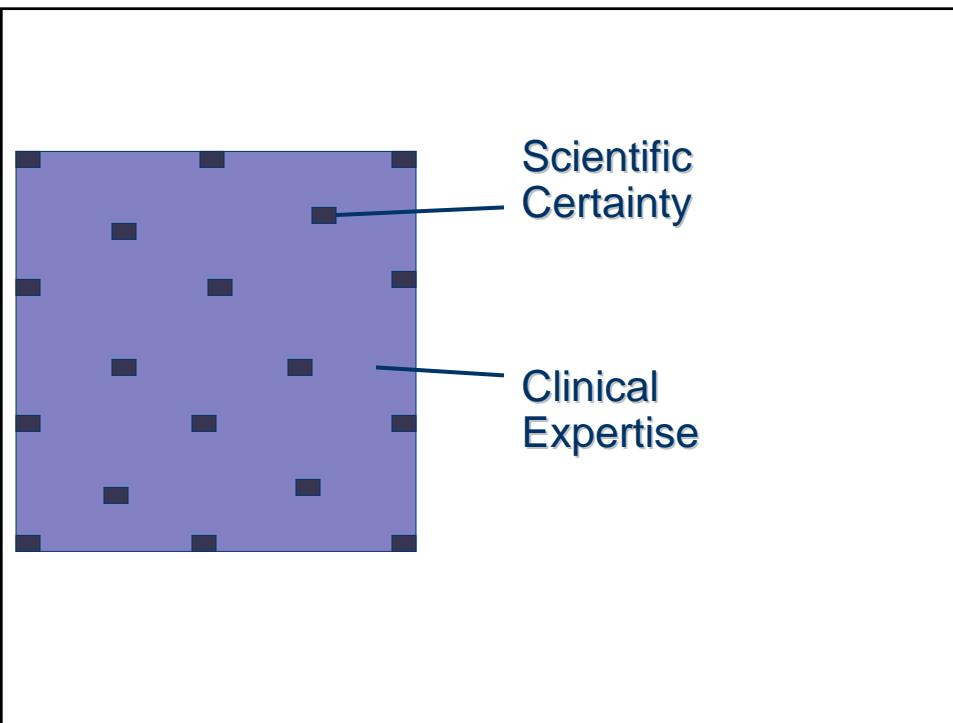
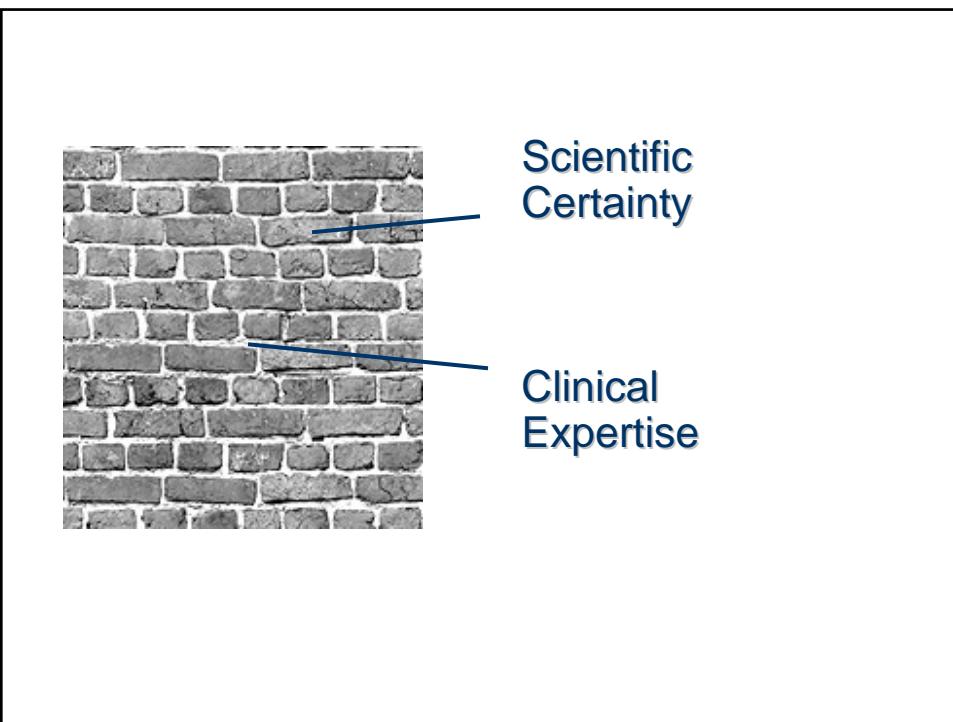
Public complaints re: PT management of workers



Overall challenge for the profession

Phase One – Develop a Guide

- Understand the Evidence



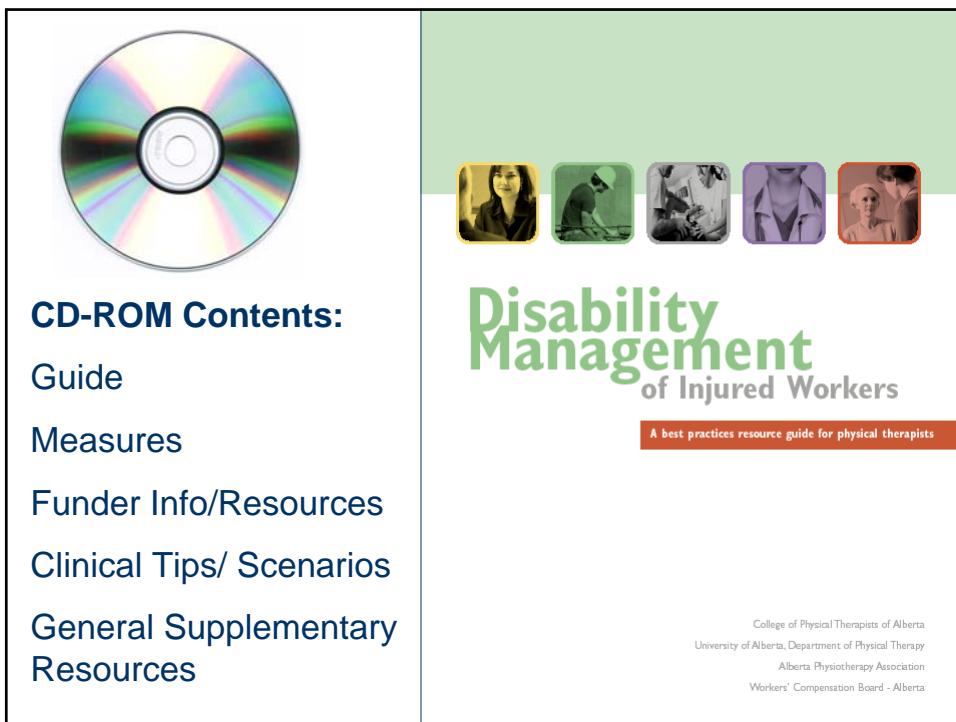
Phase One – Developed a Guide

- Understand the Evidence
- Understand Current Practice
- Knowledge Translation Workshop
- Involve Educationally Influential PTs



Educationally Influential Clinicians

- Peer nomination through email survey
- PTs who are believed to have excellent:
 - 1) Technical skills
 - 2) Teaching abilities
 - 3) Humanistic characteristics
- Involved in workshop
- Provided feedback on guide
- Assist ongoing knowledge transfer & exchange



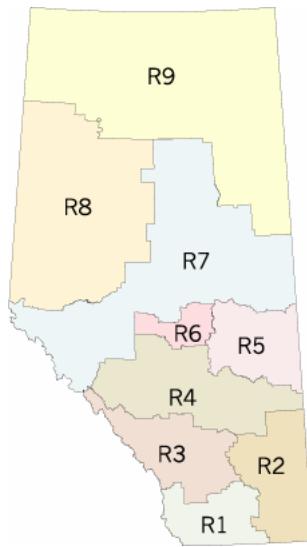
Phase Two - Knowledge Transfer

- Profession led - WCB not involved
- EI's - Coordinated orientation sessions
 - Informal teaching/ exchange/ dialogue
 - "Credibility" for clinicians

Orientation Sessions

Each Health Region

EI Involvement



Phase Two - Knowledge Transfer

- CD-ROM mail-out
- Publicly Available on CPTA Website
Living Document

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Initiatives

- **DISABILITY MANAGEMENT**
- **PRIMARY HEALTH CARE**

DISABILITY MANAGEMENT OF INJURED WORKERS

- **Resource Guide** [1033KB]
A best practice resource guide to support the physical therapist management of injured workers.
- **Appendix** [579KB]
An Appendix to the guide which contains clinical tips to promote the effective management of injured workers, resources available from payer organizations, and descriptions of selected outcome measures.
- **Outcome Measures**
Outcome measures formatted for ease of integration into practice.

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Phase Two - Knowledge Transfer

- Incorporation into Academic Program
- Articles in APA and CPTA publications
- Project Evaluation

Barriers

- PT's perceptions of their role in DM
- Organization's mandates and roles
- Organizational processes and staff changes
- Environmental context (languages, geography, varied industry participation)
- Resources – administrative and financial

Contact

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