#### How do I request the assistance of a nurse advisor?

To request the assistance of a nurse advisor, you should:

- Indicate on the WorkSafeBC reporting form that you wish to consult with the nurse advisor
- Call the WorkSafeBC claim officer, who can connect you to the assigned nurse advisor
- Call the number listed in the contact information for your location and ask to speak to a nurse advisor

Billing fee codes are available to health care providers for a phone consultation with a nurse advisor for the purpose of recovery/return-to-work planning.

#### **Contact information**

Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, and Terrace Toll-free 1 888 967-5377

B.C. Interior and North Toll-free 1 888 922-6622

Visit the WorkSafeBC web site at **www.worksafebc.com** for more information.

# RETURN TO WORK IS GOOD FOR RECOVERY

THE NURSE ADVISOR'S ROLE
IN RETURN-TO-WORK
PLANNING









## A changing approach to return to work

Return-to-work programs are based on the philosophy that many injured workers can safely perform productive work during their recovery period — and doing so provides emotional and physical benefits which can help the recovery process.

WorkSafeBC (Workers' Compensation Board) is here to assist with returning to work safely and effectively. This brochure outlines how WorkSafeBC nurse advisors can help injured workers safely return to work and recover from injury or illness.

#### What is a nurse advisor?

A nurse advisor is a registered nurse with additional training and education focused on recovery and return-to-work planning. The nurse advisor provides a clinical perspective that is separate from claim entitlement issues and consistent with the Standards for Registered Nursing Practice in British Columbia.

## How can the nurse advisor help with recovery and return-to-work planning?

The nurse advisor contributes by:

- Applying principles of disability management and evidence-based best practice guidelines to ensure a safe and timely return to work and promote the best possible recovery
- Collaborating with physicians, workers, employers, and treating therapists to develop individualized recovery and return-to-work plans
- Negotiating and coordinating safe and timely return-to-work plans
- Supporting and facilitating continuity of care and services throughout the recovery process



### When should I contact a nurse advisor?

You should contact the nurse advisor when you:

- Require assistance in developing a recovery/return-to-work plan
- Need information about WorkSafeBC-sponsored rehabilitation programs and health care benefits
- Want WorkSafeBC to expedite a diagnostic test or arrange a referral to a specialist
- Need more information about a worker's job duties and return-towork options