

Remain at work

A healthy approach to staying productive

We recognize the best claim is the claim that never happened because the injury was prevented. That's why safety is our priority. However, safety alone is not enough. One strategy to help injured workers recover quickly and safely is remain at work.



What is remain at work?

Remain at work keeps injured workers on the job while they safely heal from their injuries. The program is for injured workers with medical-only claims (seven or fewer days of missed work) who remained or returned to work but are experiencing difficulties and are in jeopardy of going off work again.

What initiates the process?

Anyone can contact the managed care organization (MCO) when an injured worker needs specialized services to keep working or is having trouble due to an injury after returning to work. Remember, the sooner, the better – early intervention is the key to a quick and safe recovery.

Who is eligible?

The MCO determines eligibility based on three factors:

- The injured worker has an allowed or certified medical-only claim or lost-time claim without payment of salary continuation or temporary total compensation.
- The injured worker has restrictions in their job of injury and is having trouble working due to the allowed condition(s).
- The employer, injured worker, or physician has identified the difficulty.

What is the MCO's role?

First, the MCO documents the difficulty an injured worker is experiencing as presented by the employer, injured worker, or physician. The MCO then authorizes the individual services.

Remain-at-work services include, but are not limited to:

- Ergonomic study
- Job analysis
- Transitional work
- Physical or occupational therapy offered on-site
- Job modification
- Tools and equipment
- Remain-at-work case management
- Gradual return to work
- On the job training

What are the benefits of remain-at-work services?

For injured workers, remain-at-work services can help the worker retain their job while being productive. These services provide workers with a sense of financial and job security with reduced time away from the job. They also reduce the risk of re-injury, and workers stay engaged with their peers.

For employers, remain-at-work services can reduce overall claims' costs and help prevent premium increases. Additionally, these services can avoid staff turnover, including the cost of hiring and training new workers, while improving workplace morale.

Where can I get more information?

For more information on remain at work, log on to BWC's web site at bwc.ohio.gov, or call 1-800-644-6292 or your local service office.