

Presentation Title	Place in Schedule
Workplace interventions to facilitate returning to work after musculoskeletal disorders: practice variations and theoretical premises	Concurrent Session 2.1 <i>Day 2 – Wednesday</i> <i>May 9th, 2018</i> <i>2:30 – 3:45pm</i>
Description of Presentation	Presenter Name(s) And Credentials
<p>The growing challenges faced by workplaces to ensure the job retention of an active, functional workforce requires the development and implementation of organizational practices that foster the recovery, return to work, and job retention especially for those experiencing sick leave due to workrelated musculoskeletal disorders or injuries. For this category of workers, in addition to the necessary clinical intervention, several studies suggest that they can benefit from workplace interventions not only to support or accommodate them back to work, but also to prevent the aggravation of the problem or the chance of re-injury on the job. These often-complex workplace interventions (including managerial and various ergonomic interventions) can take many forms and may include modifications to methods, materials and processes. Due to the intervention complexity, context sensitivity and hard to define quality criteria (given their multi-methods and multi-disciplinary approach), many studies describing successful interventions are not included in the rigorous process of a traditional systematic review. To overcome this research gap, we have adopted a mix-methods systematic review process as described by the National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research. A formal systematic review protocol was followed to identify relevant descriptive themes and to assess quality of the multi-methods studies. The aim was to search, map and synthesize the main characteristics of workplace interventions according to the intervention’s theoretical model (theoretical justification of the designed intervention) and their process variations (how it was done, by whom, for whom, etc.). A formal search for relevant studies was completed using EBSCO, PubMed and then by searching the grey literature directly from several disability management websites. Studies were limited to those from the years 2005 to 2016 and written in</p>	Katia M Costa-Black, PhD <i>NYU Langone Health & NYU School of Medicine</i>
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English. Interventions varied from a broad participatory ergonomics intervention with engineering and administrative controls to a case-specific workstation modification. Interventions' main features were described differently according to specific workplace context and terminology of the applied discipline; however, they presented very similar process characteristics and theoretical justification. This presentation describes the how and why of workplace interventions for returning people back to work after musculoskeletal disorders. Thus, it will help the multi-professional audience to better understand the practice variations and the common relevant theoretical premises for implementing return to work practices in the workplace for this population. Several research gaps were also identified and will be highlighted. An important common theoretical premise of these return to work interventions is how they are part of a comprehensive prevention program not only targeting the injury (re)occurrence but also the prevention of permanent work incapacity (combining primary, secondary and tertiary prevention). The differences on how and by whom this is done will be described in this session.