



**Acquired
Brain Injury
Network**

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Conference Presentation Abstract ~ Workshop

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Title:

A Systematic Framework for Client-Centred Decision-Making in Return to Work

Author:

Mary Stergiou-Kita, BSc. O.T., MSc, Ph.D. Student, Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Science, University of Toronto

Presenter:

Mary Stergiou-Kita BSc. O.T., MSc, Ph.D. Student, Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Science, University of Toronto

Summary:

Background: Practitioners must make complicated decisions with multiple-stakeholders (i.e. clients, health care teams, employers and insurers) when assisting clients to return to work following brain injury. While ensuring stakeholder involvement, practitioners must also ensure that client's are informed, included in the process and that their privacy is respected.

Objective: This presentation will present a framework developed to ensure a client-centred approach to return to work decision-making.

Methods: Using self-directive reflective questions, this framework guides practitioners to ask themselves specific questions to ensure that they are applying principles underlying client-centred practice, informed consent and privacy in their day-to-day practice. Questions are organized systematically to correspond to the various stages of the return to work process including: the initial assessment, information gathering, goal identification and work trial stages.

Results: Using a guided exercise, participants in this presentation will be asked to reflect on their practice processes and answer three overarching questions:

1. How do I incorporate client-centred practice principles into my return to work practice?
2. Can I identify key points in the initial assessment and return to work process where issues of informed consent and privacy become particularly relevant and if so, how do I address these issues?
3. How can I engage my client in the process so that she/he is able to make informed decisions?

Following the guided exercise, a facilitated discussion will explore the applicability of the framework to various practice contexts and possible challenges to its application

Conclusions: Practitioners across disciplines may find this framework useful.

Outcomes/Objectives:

Participants will be provided with a framework to use to assess whether they incorporate principles of client-centred practice, informed consent and consideration of privacy issues when assisting clients in returning to work following an acquired brain injury.