

From the Editor

Question: *What do backpacks, carpal tunnel syndrome, child care workers, and firefighters have in common?*
Answer: *They are all topics included in this issue of WORK!*

I know you will enjoy this issue of *WORK*. It contains an array of interesting articles on a variety of topics.

The issue begins with Wasiak, Pransky and Yao's article on *Geographic variation in surgical treatment for work-related carpal tunnel syndrome: Does improved return to work matter?* The issue continues with three articles addressing different vulnerable worker populations. The King, Gratz and Kleiner article looks at child care workers and offers ergonomic recommendations to support health. Middle school children and their use of backpacks are addressed in the article by Chiang, Jacobs and Orsmond and add to this developing body of knowledge on this subject. Harley and James evaluate the accuracy of the physical aptitude test (PAT) as a pre-employment assessment in fire fighters.

Arneson and Ekberg provide a thorough review of measuring empowerment in working life from a Swedish perspective. While Hultman, Hemlin and Hornquist address quality of life issues in Northern Swedish employed and unemployed people.

We next turn our attentions to our colleagues in Tasmania for a better understanding of how individuals with psychological challenges are provided services under the Australian workers' compensation system. Clients with mental health challenges are also addressed in McKay, Johnsen, Banks and Stein's article on employment transitions for Clubhouse members.

An interesting topic is explored by Huang, Pransky, Shaw and Benjamin. It is the factors affecting organizational responses of employers to workers with injuries.

Our Speaking of Research article is on single subject research. I know you will find this topic particularly useful in the daily practice of health and rehabilitation services.

Finally, the issue concludes with Jennifer Wright's Coaching for Workplace Success column, this time on coaching older workers in the workplace.

As always, I welcome your feedback.

Cheers,
Karen

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