



ABSOLUTE BALANCE

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**Implementation Consultation Paper 6:
Injury Management and Return to Work**

Page 4: Persons who may attend:

The following persons may attend and participate in return to work case conferences:

- The worker and any support person (union, legal representative, authorised agent, family member, carer)
- The employer and/or the employer's insurer
- The worker's treating medical practitioner
- An approved WRP

Proposed change/addition:

Page 4: Persons who may attend:

The following persons may attend and participate in return to work case conferences:

- *The worker and any support person (union, legal representative, authorised agent, family member, carer)*
- *The employer and/or the employer's insurer*
- *The worker's treating medical practitioner*
- *An approved WRP*
- *Treating allied health professional (accredited exercise physiologist, physiotherapist, and/or occupational therapist)*

The proposed change aligns with the drafted item on page 4: WorkCover WA expectations.

- All parties involved in a return to work case conference work together in good faith and use the conference for its intended purpose to support the worker's recovery and assist in the worker's return to work

Rationale:

An important aspect of return to work is establishing the functional limitations for the return to work program and the associated medical certificate restrictions. The treating allied health professional is well placed to support all parties and assist in recommendations for these documents, in addition to supporting the worker to overcome any functional barriers identified during the case conference.

Treating allied health professionals focus on building patient rapport and addressing biopsychosocial issues, that may further positively influence return to work programs and client outcomes.