

The Effects of vocational rehabilitation for occupational accidents labor

Chan-Man Chu ^{1,2}, Yi-Shiou Ruan ^{1,2}, Chia-Lin Yang ^{1,2}, I-Hsiu Liou ¹, Sheng-Hui Tuan³, Wan-Yun Huang ¹, Shu-Fen Sun ¹, Min-Hui L ¹ Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

² Occupational-rehabilitation center, Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

³Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Cishan Hospital, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Abstract

Introduction

According to the Ministry of Labor statistics in 2016, there were 52198 cases with work-related injuries and illness in Taiwan. We established a vocational rehabilitation center in our hospital to help occupational accidents labor.

Purpose

The purpose was to provide individuals with occupational injuries or illness instant information and to assist workers to return to their workplace.

Methods

The center mainly recruited patients suspected with workplace-related injury via other medical departments referral. After referral, we ensured the diagnosis and established personal archives. For those whose recovery time was over one month, we provided health education, information of social services and referral to the Kaohsiung City Government Labor Affairs Bureau. When workers' condition improved, we provided interventions included evaluation and facilitation of ability to work, social adjustment counselling, and occupational accommodation. This study summarized the characteristics of labor we provided interventions as aforementioned from September 2016 to August 2017.

Results

Sixty workers completed screening from September 2016 to August 2017 and was introduced to our services. Forty employees received evaluation and facilitation of ability to work. During our follow up at one, three and six months after intervention, 33 returned to their job. Seven cases remained unemployed for reasons For socia adjustment counselling, fourteen cases were referred to counselling after screening. However, four of whom refused our intervention. The ten cases who underwent counselling were satisfied with the service (table 2). During our interview, six cases said they had more ideas in coping problems. All ten cases were satisfied with the counselling services.

conclusions

Five cases had the need for occupational accommodation in our study. If the current working environment or equipment was not eligible for the workers, we informed the government bureau for occupational accommodation. Through the service program, we helped the workers adjust to their work via ways of the use of orthosis or accessory devices. Furthermore, in corporation with the government, we made suggestions to promote equipment, safety at work. With the support of Occupational safety and health administration, ministry of labor, Taiwan, we established a more integrated and more comprehensive service delivery system for patients with occupational injury.

Key word: New staff nurses, Spiritual growth groups, occupational accommodation

Correspondence to:I-Hsiu Liou

E-mail address: bruce_pelagia@msn.com