

Quality Review Tips!



QR Tips January 2023

Providing Clear Restrictions and Limitations

- The purpose of a clinical review is to help the Carrier understand residual functional capacity of the claimant.
- Our Carriers are looking for your expertise for very specific restrictions and limitations so they can determine a claimants overall functional capacity.
- Data ->Findings -> Deficits->Impairment -> Restrictions/Limitations
 - Limitations = loss; physically/psychologically *unable* to do
 - Restrictions = retains ability, however due to possible risk, *should* not do
- What would be medically reasonable, i.e., based on what would be a general consensus of medical thought (more likely than not); reasoned and defensible conclusions based on the available evidence.
- Provide opinion on *whole person, global capacity* (i.e., in any environment, not solely work capacity. For example, if a claimant should not lift 50 pounds due to surgery, they should not lift this amount at home, out shopping *or* at work).
- Restrictions and limitations also include the hours per day/ days per week.
- Your determination of any necessary restrictions should always include how often and with what frequency this activity can be performed out of the duration of a workday.
- Capacity should be phrased in terms of sustainability, i.e., # minutes (or hours) at a time for total # in an eight-hour period.
- If a time frame is requested from the Carrier, be sure to include the timeframe in your response.
- If the RLs change over time period in review, breakdown your duration/ timeframe and outline the RLs.

Look for our next tip in the upcoming weeks.

We hope this has been helpful and we welcome your feedback and questions.

Thank you,
The QR Team

Bobbie bahern@bbabsence.com 207-747-4311
Julie jmatula@bbabsence.com 207-747-4314

Tracy Tbassett@bbabsence.com 207-747-4342
Robin rthatcher@bbabsence.com 207-747-4323
MaryAnne mtranfaglia@bbabsence.com 207-835-0049