



PROJECT TITLE: Evaluation of Interventions Related to Workers Compensation Injuries

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 10-06191.UAB

PIs: Carroll, Borkowski, Schmidt

RESEARCH THEME: Care Coordination

BUDGET: \$50,000

UNIVERSITY: UAB

PROJECT YEAR: 1

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The goal of this project is to evaluate the effects of a set of case management services on outcomes of interest to workers' compensation insurers, employers, and injured employees. In particular, we will be looking at the outcomes claims cost and return to work time.

HOW THIS IS DIFFERENT THAN RELATED RESEARCH:

There is a large body of evidence examining the impact of case management in the context of health insurance and health care delivery. However, there is far less literature available to describe the effects of care management in the context of employment injury.

EXPERIMENTAL PLAN:

This will be a quantitative study using claims data from a third party workers compensation administrator that administers claims for employers nationwide. We will use regression analysis on pooled cross-sections to estimate the impact that case management has on cost and time-away-from-work outcomes.

EXPECTED MILESTONES:

- (1) Analysis to be completed in September
- (2) Research poster/presentation at APHA annual meeting in November
- (3) Manuscript submitted by December 2019

BENEFITS TO INDUSTRY:

Our results will inform employer decisions about whether or not to purchase case management services for their employees. Similarly, our results may help refine current case management programs serving injured workers.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES:

- (1) Publishable manuscript summarizing our methods and findings
- (2) Presentations at academic and workers' compensation industry conferences