

# Practical Stuff They Didn't Teach You In Medical School

Evidence-Based Clinical Decision-Making About Patients and Their Work  
CME course (as a webinar)

Presented by Jennifer Christian, MD, MPH, Work Fitness & Disability Section, American College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine, President of Webility Corporation

## Participants will take away

- Clinical pearls - core concepts to guide thinking
- Quick and simple screening questions and interventions
- Handout with practical reference materials and local resources
- Patient education sheets, referral forms, and brochures



## Educational Objectives

As a result of participating in this session, clinicians will be able to:

- employ a logical conceptual framework and set of clinical tools in formulating clinical opinions in the stay-at-work and return-to-work processes, and will be familiar with methods for obtaining needed information and data upon which to base their opinions.
- identify which people (among those who have been "on disability" for a long time) might benefit from reassurance that it is safe for them to work from a medical perspective, and that they may be eligible for programs that could help them successfully go to work.

**Date:** Tuesday, December 7, 2010

**Time:** 6-7:30 pm (MST)

**Location:** Flagstaff Medical Center's McGee Auditorium 1200 N. Beaver St. Flagstaff, AZ

## Sponsorship and Accreditation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the Joint Sponsorship of The University of Arizona College of Medicine at the Arizona Health Sciences Center and the Arizona Health and Disability Partnership. The University of Arizona College of Medicine at the Arizona Health Sciences Center is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Arizona College of Medicine at the Arizona Health Sciences Center designates this live activity for 1.50 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Sponsored by: The Arizona Employment & Disability Partnership, administered by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). The Arizona Employment and Disability Partnership is a Medicaid Infrastructure Grant funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, grant award number 1QACMS300122.

## Contact information:

Suzanne Tackitt, CME Coordinator/ Library Associate  
928-214-3579; [Suzanne.Tackitt@nahealth.com](mailto:Suzanne.Tackitt@nahealth.com)

## Reason for this Educational Initiative

Traditional medical education has some gaps in it that leave physicians unprepared to perform certain everyday duties. One of them is the role prescribed for doctors in the stay-at-work and return-to-work (SAW/RTW) process. Nearly every day, their patients request guidance about what they should and shouldn't do at work and at home because their ability to function in the "real world" has been altered by their medical conditions. If the patient is not curious, their employer, an insurer, or a government agency may be. As a matter of law or policy they must rely on the treating doctor's opinion in order to make an administrative or legal decision.

## About the Course Author

Dr. Jennifer Christian led two teams in developing reports with guidance for practicing clinicians from the [American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine](#) (ACOEM). The reports are entitled [Preventing Needless Work Disability by Helping People Stay Employed](#) and [The Personal Physician's Role in Helping Patients with Medical Conditions Stay at Work or Return to Work](#). These ACOEM reports provide the foundational training concepts for the training sessions.

## Design of the Sessions

In this session, attendees will be given a conceptual framework and will learn a logical process to use in making clinical opinions in the stay-at-work and return-to-work processes. They will also learn how to obtain needed information and data upon which to base their opinions. Lastly, they will learn how to identify which people (among those who have been "on disability" for a long time) might benefit from being told by a doctor that (a) it is safe for them to work from a medical perspective, and (b) they may be eligible for programs that could help them successfully go to work.

