

Mission Statement

Medical Functional Assessments was created to develop scientific methodologies to objectively evaluate an individual's physical impairment from an industrial or non-industrial injury. The application of core principles in Physiatry, Kinesiology, and scientific methods will guide physicians and other providers to objectively evaluate an individual's impairment in relation to their job capacity and society. Medical Functional Assessments is dedicated to solving the complex functional relationship between physical impairment and proper alignment of the individual to specific job capacity.

The Objective Functional Capacity Evaluation will augment a physician's or provider's decision making concerning when an injured worker can safely return to work.

Statement of Philosophy

Our Objective FCE is based on the impairment concept applying a Physiatric model. This model utilizes objective reliability and validity criteria to generate objective data.

These methods and protocols are applied using the Functional Impairment Methodology (patent pending). This methodology will provide concise measurement of a physical impairment.

The Objective FCE data collected helps with numerous issues related to an individual's return to work and Fitness for Duty. Evaluating functional limitations allows proper decisions for guiding therapy of impairment. Objective data obtained from the Objective FCE aligns the individual's impairment to the functional capability of their job demands.

With this standardized approach we feel that every evaluation should guide the physician or provider to expedited closure of a case or return to work issues. The numerous tools applied include Normative Data, Reliability, Validity, Safety, Sensitivity, and Specificity to each impairment evaluation.

Prime Location

We are conveniently located in the center of the SF Bay Area. Our office is 20 minutes from Oakland and San Jose and 45 minutes from San Francisco. There is easy access from the 880 and 680 freeways.



Medical Functional Assessments

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Objective Evaluation Creates Optimal Outcomes



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About Us

Robert Bruce Miller, M.D., FAPMR



Dr. Miller is a native Californian who did his undergraduate work at U.C. Davis. He worked in the private sector for approximately ten years before attending the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine. He received his post graduate training in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Eastern Virginia School of Medicine in Norfolk, Virginia.

He is a Fellow of the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. His memberships include American Board of Pain Medicine, CSPMR, and PASSOR.

Dr. Miller's additional training includes certification for Lumbar Spinal Procedures, Botox Pain Management, and Functional Assessments including FCE's. He is licensed as a Qualified and Agreed Medical Examiner.

Joshua Stone, MA, ATC, CWCE, CEES



Josh is a native of Pennsylvania. He obtained his undergraduate degree from East Stroudsburg University in Movement Studies and Exercise Science. To further augment his education he obtained a Master's degree in Kinesiology from San Jose State University.

Josh has worked extensively with workers' compensation patients. He has worked as an athletic trainer at the Division 1 level for the previous seven years for Long Beach State University. He has worked with collegiate, Olympic, and professional athletes.

Josh obtained certification as a functional capacity evaluator and ergonomic evaluation specialist. He is a fellow with the National Academy of Sports Medicine for performance enhancement and is certified in Graston technique.

Basic Information

Functional Capacity Evaluation

A generalized term which involves physical examination based on job demands and on the physical tolerances to speed, strength, and endurance, as they relate to work abilities.

The Objective Functional Capacity Evaluation™ (O-FCE)

A thorough evaluation of musculoskeletal functional ability, which provides true objective data of strength, speed, flexibility, endurance, and functional limitations as compared to normative data.

The Problem

All parties involved in the workers' compensation decision making process are forced to draw inaccurate conclusions based on subjective data, thus denying an injured person the opportunity to return to work, or returning the employee to unsafe working conditions.

The Solution

Integration of clinical findings and the objective functional capacity evaluation results, coupled with extensive research and tools including the FIM, provide truly objective data to ensure accurate placement and care of injured workers.

Functional Impairment Methodologies*

FIM is a trademark and patented method of evaluating functional abilities. The process combines physiatric principles with bio-functional mechanics. This unique methodology is 100% objective and includes:

- Psychological screen
- Validity/reliability measures
- Physical effort testing
- Metabolic testing
- Range of motion
- Strength testing
- Compatibility with job demands
- Prescription for objective musculoskeletal rehabilitation

Objective FCE vs. Non-Objective FCE

O-FCE integrates data with board certified physician.

O-FCE utilizes Functional Impairment Methodology (FIM).

O-FCE uses objective methodologies to assess maximum effort.

Evaluation Professional	
Board Certified Physician	Physical Therapist or Occupational Therapist
Integration of clinical findings and O-FCE data	Cannot integrate FCE data
Analyze medical data to contraindicate O-FCE results	Cannot analyze medical data and contraindicate FCE results
Correlate impairment functional test results with validity and reliability	WYSIWIG—Test evaluation is unaltered secondary to non-valid results
Addresses Maximal Medical Improvement	Cannot address MMI
Modified O-FCE data can determine AMA impairment rating	Cannot perform AMA impairment rating
Guidelines are directed at functional restoration of impairment	Cannot address impairment
Can make return to work decisions	Cannot make final return to work decision
Methodology	
Functional Impairment Methodology	Subjective Methods
Protocols designed O-FCE are based on the impairment	Protocols are not impairment based
Meets Daubert legal standards for expert evidence	Questionable to meet Daubert standards for expert evidence
Greater than 100 references to support validity, reliability, and maximal effort outcomes	Non-objective FCE have failed to demonstrate validity, reliability, and maximal effort outcomes

*Patent Pending

The Benefits

With our unique methodology we can:

- Provide the physician an edge over competitors
- Promote case resolution
- Win-win solution for employer and injured worker
- Physician assessed work recommendations
- Development of physician referral program

Who We Can Help

- Physicians
- Workers' comp. attorneys
- Claims adjusters
- HR directors
- AME/QME
- Disability insurers
- Case managers
- Private corporations
- Workers' comp. adjusters
- Vocational rehab consultant

Suggested Referral

- We accept referrals from physicians, case managers, adjusters, and attorneys
- Objective FCE
- Non-resolving/delayed recovery cases
- Determining Maximal Medical Improvement
- Repetitive strain injury
- Functional deficits
- Deconditioning/loss of lifting capacity

Let Us Do the Leg Work

Why waste the staff's time in requesting for authorizations? We make getting authorization easy; we ask that you submit to us:

- First doctor's report
- Insurance information
- Most recent PR-2
- Patient information
- Diagnostic findings

Upon receipt of pertinent information we will request authorization for the objective FCE. If authorization is denied, we will prepare and submit appropriate appeal documentation within two days of denial.

Also feel free to visit us online; where you will find a referral submission form. Once submitted, we will fax required documentation for request of authorization.