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What to expect during your functional capacity evaluation (FCE)

The FCE is used to get a complete picture of your current physical capabilities. The test is meant to identify physical strengths, as well as any areas of physical limitation that may affect or interfere with your ability to work or perform specific types of tasks.

The FCE

Depending on the payer and referral source, your FCE will be scheduled for either one or two days. One day tests will last for 4 hours and two day tests will consist of 8 hours total, split over two days.

Each functional capacity evaluation will consist of:

- An interview to discuss your injuries, current condition and medical history
- Completion of a set of questionnaires to better understand how your pain or physical limitations affect you on a daily basis
- A set of physical tests to help determine your current physical capabilities and limitations.
- A focused evaluation of joint mobility and strength
- A comparison of your present abilities with your prior or target job

During the physical tests, you will be asked to complete tasks to evaluate fine finger dexterity and general mobility as well as strength based activities including lifting, pushing, pulling and carrying. Each physical test is meant to assess your maximum, safe capacity for a particular activity using a structured process in order to provide you with the best evaluation of your current physical capabilities.

Plan on dressing in comfortable clothing and footwear that will allow for free movement.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact us at (406) 549-5283 or go to www.sapphirept.com to learn more about our FCEs and physical therapy services.

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