Injury Schemes Seminar*
Balancing Outcomes
10–12 November 2013
Sheraton Mirage Gold Coast

* Formerly the Accident Compensation Seminar

Actuaries Institute

Call for Papers and Presentations

SYNOPSIS

STUDY OF PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL OUTCOMES FOLLOWING A ROAD TRAFFIC CRASH (UQ-SuPPORT): 24-MONTH FOLLOW-UP
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Key words: CTP claimants, adults, 2-year follow-up, psychological outcomes, physical outcomes, recovery, risk factors

Purpose of your paper: To describe factors that may predict which individuals will experience long-term psychological and physical impairment following an RTC, including levels of pain and disability, general quality of life, CTP claims process and expectations regarding recovery.

Synopsis: Road traffic crashes can have a large and long-lasting impact on individuals, in terms of physical and mental health outcomes. More research is needed to assess specific risk factors for poor outcomes, so that screening tools may be developed to identify individuals at risk and effective interventions can be devised. This study assesses the impact of road traffic crashes on adults who are Compulsory Third Party Claimants in Queensland across a 2-year period. A prospective longitudinal design is utilized with assessment by computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) and questionnaires at 3-6 months (Wave 1), 12 months (Wave 2), and 24 months post-injury (Wave 3). Results from Wave 3 are reported. Participants' disability levels, amount of sick leave, health care usage and prevalence of psychiatric morbidity are reported. Additionally, the relationship between psychiatric diagnoses and physical outcomes (disability level, pain, health care usage, number of sick days) is examined. Compensation factors will also be discussed. This research investigates a diverse array of factors that can modify the course of recovery for physical injury in adults resulting from road traffic crashes. Results from the proposed study will provide important information for improving policy and practice in injury management and post-injury rehabilitation.