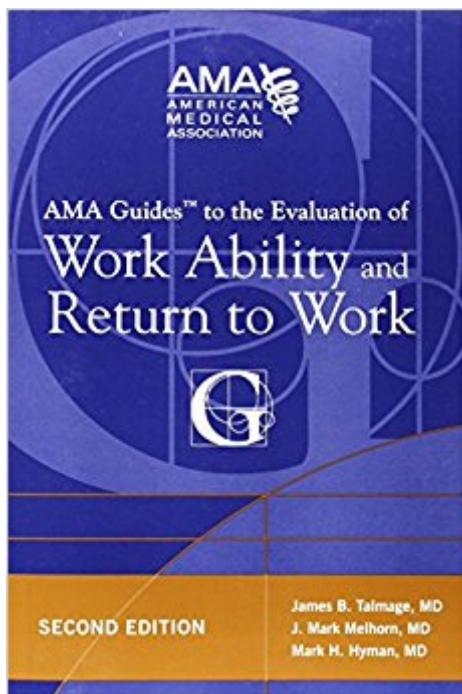


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# AMA Guides To The Evaluation Of Work Ability And Return To Work



## Synopsis

Second edition! Confidently handle return to work and work ability issues Risk, capacity and tolerance. Once understood, these three return to work-related issues can help guide physicians through work ability and work cases for numerous diagnoses and body systems. Structured with these themes in mind, this easy-to-read publication includes the latest medical literature reviewed by experts and step-by-step guidance to help negotiate return to work cases. Practical features and second edition updates include:

- \* Four new chapters: Gastrointestinal, Genitourinary, Obstetric and Hematology-Oncology
- \* Updated approaches and references from more than 20 new contributors
- \* Implications of unemployment, medication, work aspects and driving
- \* Forms that can be used to communicate return to work guidelines
- \* Disclaimers to use when writing return to work guidelines
- \* Tips on negotiating with patients
- \* Current science on functional capacity evaluations
- \* Chapters organized by body system, making it easy to use as a reference text for a particular system or diagnosis
- \* Tables contain recommended disability durations by diagnosis
- \* The Cardiopulmonary chapter has been divided into separate cardiac and pulmonary chapters
- \* A new chapter featuring international perspectives on return to work

Ideal for:

- \* Physicians, primarily orthopedists, neurosurgeons, and primary care physicians
- \* Nurse case managers
- \* Nurse practitioners and physicians' assistants who function as primary care providers
- \* Lawyers involved in claims handling
- \* Disability insurers
- \* Workers' compensation administrators
- \* Human resource managers

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Any doctor doing medical impairment evaluation or disability assessment need to read this book. It details sound scientific principles and sound practical philosophical approach to work and the total real benefit of work on the human existence.

Really a good tool for RTW and Treatment Guides in addition to being a great help in addressing both of these issues with an MD provider in the Work Comp field. Very glad to have it.

Very Good

Great Resource

Great

i am so happy!

This guide is a good starting point on a way of thinking about what is a complex issue that is likely a day to day problem for physicians, and one about which few are taught much during their training. Start here, but please understand there are limitations associated with this approach that may raise questions about the foundation for their opinions that an evaluator will likely have difficulty answering short of referring back to elements used with which they may not be totally familiar. For example, the authors suggest basing the evaluation on a patient's risk, capacity, and tolerance for work activity, using in part the Social Security Administration's (SSA) criteria for the degree of impairment present for one body system or another. See [...] for the listing that is current as of July 18, 2011. No reference appears to be made to the fact that the Administration holds to themselves in a legal sense the interpretation of these listings, and even the SSA does not use a literal interpretation of the guidelines, but rather consider them as they may have been modified over time by other regulations and court decisions. Consequently the SSA is quite likely to disagree with an evaluator's stated opinion to the effect that a patient does not appear to meet the guidelines so they are able to work. This may be due in part to the fact that the SSA considers the Listings within the framework of many other elements that I do not believe are mentioned in this Guide (and my apologies to the authors if I missed this discussion). See [...] for the current SSA listing of these factors, which continues through section 404.1568. Finally, I did not note any guidelines for how

evaluating physicians can do a full and accurate identification and analysis of the job activities and physical demands of the patient's job at the time of injury, which would seem to be an important element for evaluating a person's capacity for returning to work at their past work or for any other work for which they might qualify by the nature of their background and other elements referenced in [...] and elsewhere. So, although I believe the publication would be a good starting point it does not quite take us to the point where its use can likely allow an evaluating physician to fully and accurately predict a person's capacity to work on a regular, sustained, and predictable basis. Phillip Bussey, Ph.D., CRC

I have not read this book yet, so first, my apologies. My giving it five stars is due to the fact that I have to assign a value and to give it fewer than five stars may be unfair. Similarly, five stars may be unfair, but there is no way to not provide a number and my experience with the AMA Guides to Causation and the AMA Guides to Evaluation of Permanent Impairment has been almost wholly positive. Still, I apologize for doing what I was required to do without the necessary qualification. The reason I am writing is that I would like to make a suggestion regarding future reviews. I expect that most purchasers of the book will be physicians; they are not looking for a good read but for a tool that helps them in their work. While I don't like putting down specific reviews (at least the reviewers provided something with a positive "review"), I don't see how I can express my opinion without doing so; I apologize to the reviewers if I seem to be heaping ridicule on them; my purpose is to suggest something more useful. Here, then, is my complaint. Reviews of one word are not especially helpful. "Great", "i am so happy!" are not very descriptive of the book and don't provide reasons why a physician should purchase it. "Great Resource" at least describes the book as a resource, while "Great" might mean it was fun to read by the fireside. "Really a good tool for RTW and Treatment Guides in addition to being a great help in addressing both of these issues" sounds better but mostly restates the title of the book. To me, only the three star review by Phillip Bussey actually provided information about the book. I think most buyers of this book belong to the same group of hyper-educated health care providers. Surely it is possible to tell potential buyers something about why the book is great, something about how it helps them in their practice. Please consider providing information along with the expletives. From reading the reviews, I have little idea about why I might or might not be able to use this book, and I would prefer not to sing for my supper without knowing that the supper has (or does not have) useful content. Thanks for putting up with my whining. Please consider really helping a potential buyer when you go to the trouble of reviewing products obtained in such a convenient setting. I would like to know why I don't want to blow my

money on something, or why I do. Calling it "Great" has not helped. Your mileage may vary. For what it's worth, I really hate being serious for five entire paragraphs.

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