



## FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY EVALUATION

Spectrum Medical's Functional Capacity Evaluations (FCE) usually takes between **3-4 hours** to complete and 48 hours for the report to be completed and sent to the treating physician to be signed and documented. In most cases, there will be an Impairment Rating that will be included into the report.

A Functional Capacity Evaluation (FCE) is used to determine fitness to work following an extended period of medical leave. If a patient is unable to return to work, the FCE provides information on prognosis, limitations and/or restrictions, and occupational rehabilitation measures that may be possible. An FCE can also be used to help identify changes to a patient's workload, or modifications to working conditions such as ergonomic measures, that the employer may be able to undertake in an effort to accommodate an employee with a disability or medical condition. FCEs are needed to determine if an employee is able to resume working in a capacity "commensurate with his or her skills or abilities" before the disability or medical condition was diagnosed.

An FCE involves assessments using the following:

- Medical History and Various Questionnaires
- Computerized Strength Testing
- Range of Motion Measurements
- Dexterity Testing
- Multi-levels of Material Handling (lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling) ☐ Work Activities (such as reaching, squatting, kneeling, walking, etc.)
- Postures
- Cardiovascular Testing.

**The customization of testing is determined by the physical demand levels that are required by the patient's job description and also their specific injury.**

FCEs may be required by law for some employers before an employee can return to work, as well as by insurers before insurance payments can be made. FCEs are also used to determine eligibility for disability.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (434) 797-1807**

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