

My main points are here below:

- 1) Quality Career advice is a key determinant of well-being at work and in the success of return-to-work programs.
- 2) Provision of any career advice should be provided by qualified & experienced practitioners.
- 3) Qualified Career Practitioners should form part of a person's mental health treatment plan when education and employment are considered as goals of the Plan and they should be funded by Medicare.
- 4) Videoconferencing is also an effective way to communicate between the individual and Qualified Career Practitioners in cases where low to moderate intensity care is required.
- 5) Qualified Career Practitioners should also form part of the person-centred pathway of coordinated care when education, training and employment are goals of the plan.
- 6) Qualified Career Practitioners should be engaged in return-to-work plans for mental health related worker compensation claims as part of the first 6 month 'no liability' agreement.

I am keen to help raise our CDAA profile here and my background is in this area:

Thornton, P & Kearns, D. (1998) Key Issues paper for the International Research Project on Job Retention and Return to Work Strategies for Disabled Workers. International Labour Organisation : Geneva. Presented in Washington, May 1998.