

Facts about your COHE:

- More than 1,300 health care providers participate across 20 Eastern Washington counties
- Up to 2,500 claims initiated by COHE providers are processed each month (23,000 annually)
- The percentage of time loss disability claims over 90 days is 4.7% for COHE Community of Eastern Washington (statewide average is 5.8%); and 6.7% for claims over 30 days time loss (statewide average is 10.4%)
- Due to the success of the COHE programs, the 2011 Washington State Legislature passed legislation that directs the Department of Labor and Industries to expand the state's Centers for Occupational Health and Education (COHE) permanently with the goal of extending access to all injured workers by December 2015. COHE Community of Eastern Washington will continue to lead those efforts in this part of the state.

Awards:

Washington State Labor & Industries' COHE Project

was selected by the 2009 Better Government Competition as runner-up among 250 nation-wide entries for reduction in disability among injured workers according to the Pioneer Institute – Public Policy Research, Boston MA.



Center of Occupational Health & Education

St. Luke's Rehabilitation Institute

The Center of Occupational Health & Education is administered by Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I). COHE Community of Eastern Washington and others in Renton, Everett, Seattle and Tacoma are part of an effort to improve health care delivery to injured workers.

COHE Community of Eastern Washington
509-456-3222
Toll free 1-866-247-2643
www.gocohe.com



COHE Community of Eastern Washington is a service of Inland Northwest Health Services (INHS). INHS is a non-profit corporation in Spokane, Washington providing collaboration in health care services on behalf of the community.

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Center of Occupational Health & Education

St. Luke's Rehabilitation Institute



Working Together to get People back to Work

A Community Resource for the Injured Worker

It's a Winning Combination

COHE Community of Eastern Washington is a blueprint for the future of health care and has resulted in:

Injured workers were 33% less likely to go on time-loss disability versus non-COHE injured workers.

Nearly \$62 million annually is saved in eastern Washington communities, from direct medical costs and disability costs. COHE health care providers have 35% less time loss cases at 90 days post-injury, 30% less at 12 months, and 46% less at 24 months – compared to non-COHE providers.

\$510 first year savings per claim is attributed to the COHE approach of utilizing occupational health best practices and seeking early return-to-work opportunities.

Patients treated by physicians who more often adopted occupational health best practices had, on average 20 fewer days away from work than other injured workers.



Working to prevent disability and improve injured worker outcomes

- COHE Community of Eastern Washington is administered by Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I).
- COHE coordinates the physician, the employer and the worker or labor group in a cooperative effort to streamline the process and return the worker to the workplace in a timely manner.
- It's a combination that works, according to studies by investigators from the University of Washington. Injured workers who receive care through COHE providers get their benefits faster, have a lower incidence of disability, return to work faster and lose fewer work days than non-COHE patients.

How Do I Learn More about COHE

Visit www.goCOHE.com or call toll free 866-247-COHE.

COHE Benefits:

Health Care Providers

- Streamlined and standardized L&I paperwork/form process
- Payment incentives aligned with quality – potential for increased reimbursement for communication, paperwork and decision-making
- Easy access to COHE Health Service Coordinators to answer questions, provide assistance and act as a “go-between” with L&I
- Training on occupational medicine best practices to facilitate optimum outcomes

Employers

- Streamlined and standardized work-status reporting process
- Prompt communication among health care providers, employers and injured workers
- Potential for industrial insurance cost and disability reduction for valued employees
- Access to COHE Care Coordinators – a real person to answer your questions, provide assistance and act as a “go-between” with L&I

Injured Workers

- Access to quality health care in your community
- Get your questions answered. One call connects you to COHE Health Service Coordinators – a real person to provide assistance and act as a “go-between” with L&I at no charge to you
- Help getting back to work quickly and safely
- Better understanding of work injury, recovery and return to work process

COHE Community of Eastern Washington patients averaged 20 fewer disability days with an estimated cost savings of \$510 per claim in the first year.

About COHE Community of Eastern Washington

COHE Community of Eastern Washington is sponsored by St. Luke's Rehabilitation Institute, a division of Inland Northwest Health Services of Spokane. What initially encompassed three counties in the initial phase of the pilot project has successfully expanded to 20 counties throughout eastern Washington – due largely to the cooperation and support from health care providers, health administrators, employers, labor union members and community leaders. The result is a significant decrease in long-term disability and related health costs from on-the job injuries – an important benefit to our communities.

