Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is a Long-term Burden

The Long-term Burden of Work-related Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Relative to Upper-extremity Fractures and Dermatitis in Washington State

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Key Findings

- The medical and wage replacement costs of carpal tunnel syndrome represent only a fraction of the full burden of their condition.
- Six years following the opening of their claim, people with CTS suffered substantial losses compared to people who lost the use of their arm through an upper-arm fracture or those who had dermatitis. These losses occurred across all four of the measured outcome areas.
- Significant deficits were found in their social and financial status as well as their physical and mental health.
  - They were twice as likely to have divorced or separated from their spouse.
  - They were almost twice as likely to not be back at work.

Impact

Policy needs to address the long-term burden of carpal tunnel syndrome on workers and their households. Services that provide long-term physical and mental health, social and workplace support may help close the gap in poor outcomes for workers with CTS.

Find the article here:

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