



PREVENTION. CARE. RECOVERY.

Te Kaporeihana Āwhina Hunga Whara

Better@Work

25 June 2009



An ACC funded partnership between ACC, Lake Taupo PHO and local doctors to develop a service that will

- Support doctors to change the way they certificate time off work
- Support employers to have injured workers remain in or return earlier to the work place
- Reduce average time off work
- Reduce weekly compensation costs.

Better@Work – Evidence

- Clinical evidence shows that injured workers do better if they recover at work
- Injured workers will benefit from the financial, social and employment security of a normal routine, and be back to full independence earlier
- Washington State Centre of Occupational Health & Education process for management of time off work has been positively evaluated as achieving nine fewer disability days than control groups
- Dame Carol Black's report for UK government 'Working for a Healthier Tomorrow' replaces the Unfit for Work certificate with a Fit for Work certificate
- International experts advising on Better@Work

Role of GPs

General practitioners are

- The gateway to weekly compensation entitlement
- Key to workers expectations about being better off at work
- In need of assistance to support employers, especially small and medium sized employers, to assist injured workers to recover at work.

Taupo Prototype

Lake Taupo PHO have been prototyping this service since 2 March 2009

- Five member general practices
- 21 doctors
- 1800 injured workers per year
- 600 injured workers claim weekly compensation
- Average time off work for non-serious injuries 82 days

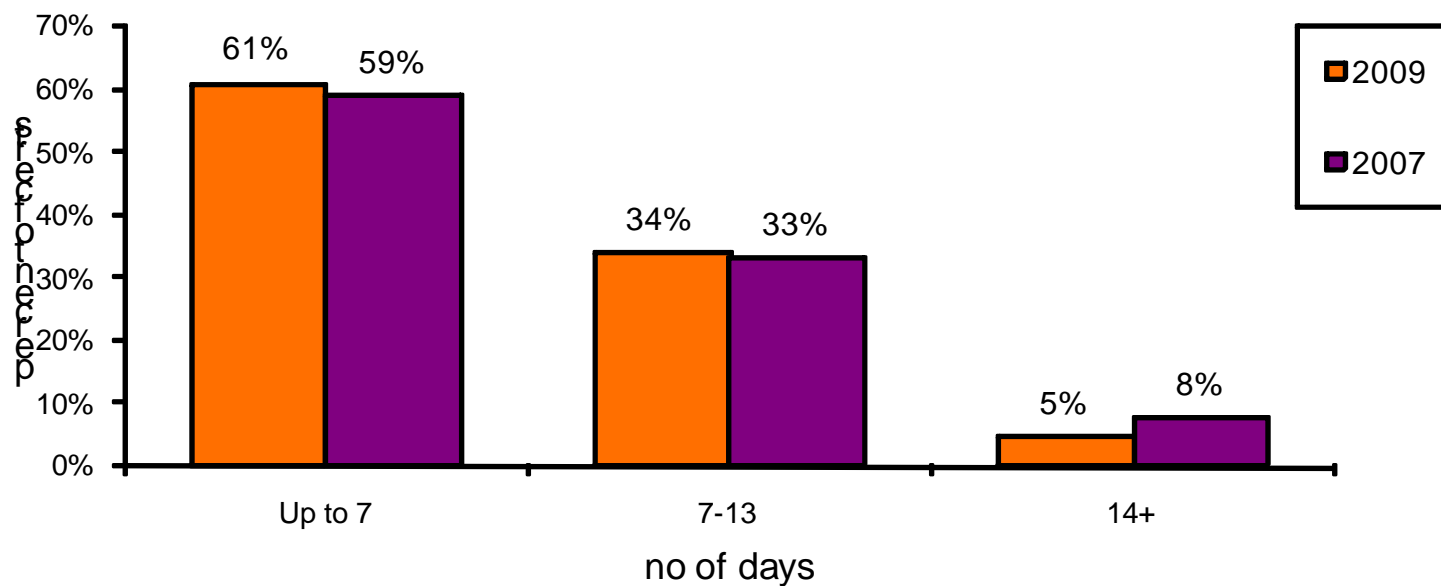
Taupo Prototype

Better@Work is being trialled so we understand more about the issues

- Involving general practice in the programme development
- Exploring employers attitudes to having injured workers in the workplace
- Taking account of injured workers questions about an early return to work
- Perfecting systems to ensure good communication

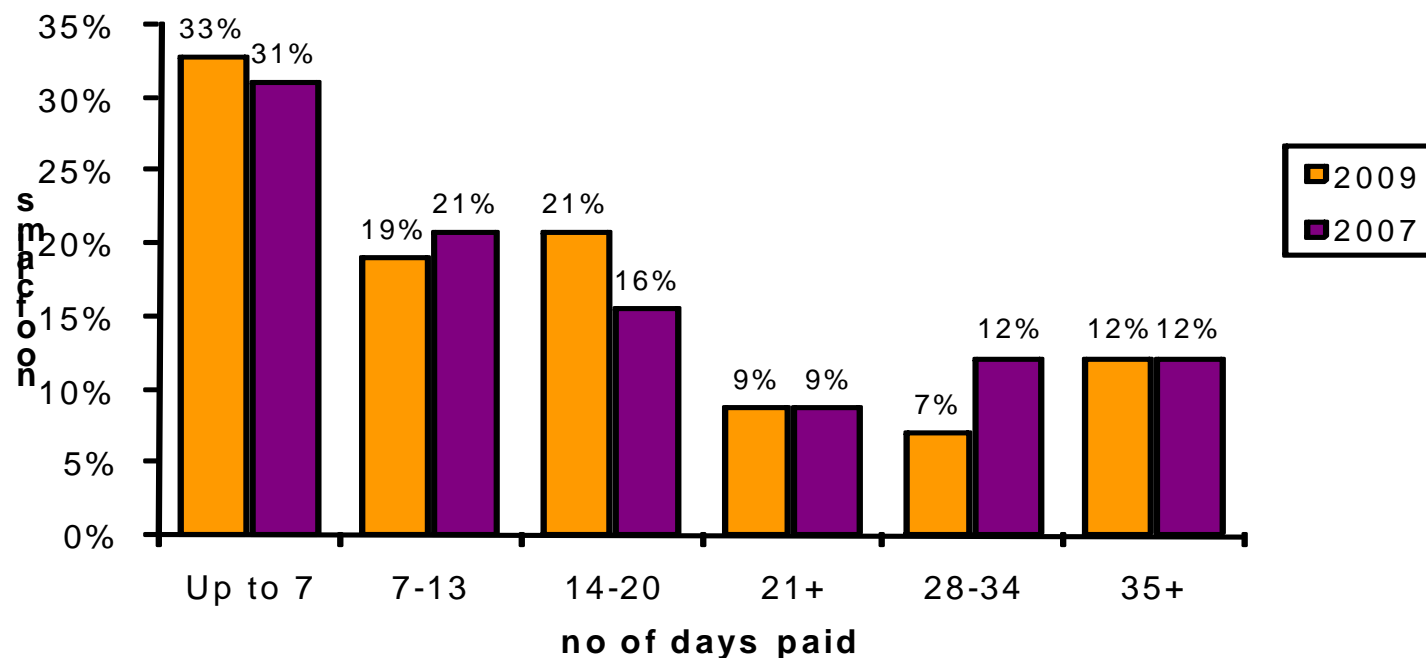
GP Initial Certification

Initial Time off Work Certificates
issued 2 March - 16 Jun



Return to work improvement between 2 March-2 June

**Weekly Compensation paid days for clients
returned to full duties**



Client Management

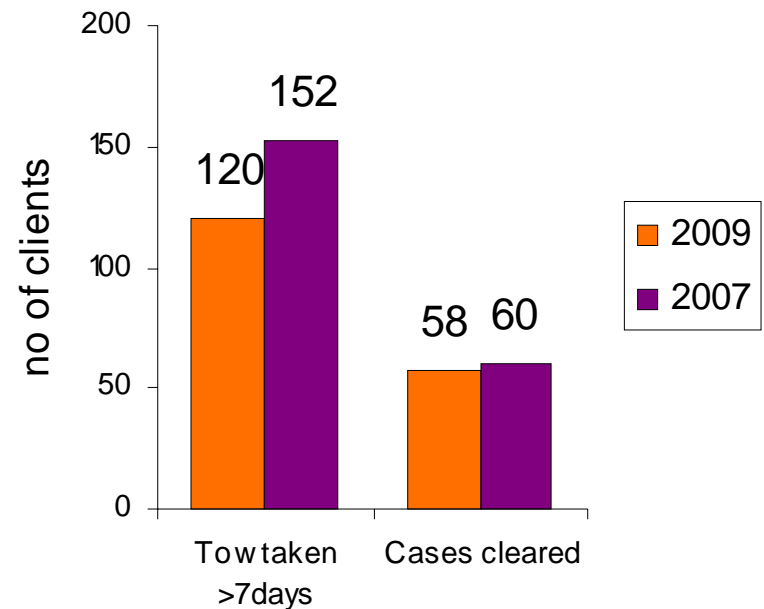
The number and proportion of clients that returned to work following a minimum of 7 days off work increased from

38% to 49%

1,336 extra days at work

So far in the 3 months until 2 June 2009 when compared to the 2007 baseline period.

Cases managed





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Benefits

- Injured workers
- Employers
- Doctors