

RETAIN CONNECTICUT

Retaining
Employment
and Talent After
Injury/Illness
Network



In partnership with UConn and CT DOL for worker's health

Issue 2 | Nov 12, 2020

How does RETAIN-CT's Work Navigator Program help patients/workers?

Putting your patients/workers back on a course to better health is the job of RETAIN-CT's Work Navigator and a team of professionals. The direction your patient's journey takes depends on the musculoskeletal injury or illness and their personal goals. The patient/worker may receive professional support from: a nurse, the American Job Center for re-training, a UConn ergonomist to assess work related physical stresses and solutions, referrals for support services and vocational services, or an opportunity to borrow assistive devices from the technology lending library. This newsletter is aimed to help our RETAIN-CT providers gain a better understanding of this patient-centered plan-of-care and the vision of the program.





Jill Larmett
Work Navigator RETAIN-CT

Meet RETAIN-CT's Work Navigator Jill Larmett!

RETAIN-CT is fortunate to have Jill Larmett as a Work Navigator from Capital Workforce Partners. Prior to joining the RETAIN project, since 2009, Jill has served North Central Connecticut's One-Stop system as the Disability Navigator. Her expertise serving people with disabilities has served us well with our participants struggling with musculoskeletal conditions and work demands. Wearing her hat at Capital Workforce Partners, she assists individuals navigating the system of services that help people with disabilities. Additionally, she ensures the American Job Centers are ADA compliant and job seekers with disabilities have equal access to communication and all programs and services. Jill has an in-depth knowledge of the various workforce and human service-related programs available in the state. She also has a strong network of

established relationships with (programs, individuals, offices who provide these services), that have already proven to be helpful for our current RETAIN-CT participants..

Jill's experience has prepared her to assist RETAIN participants in their efforts to return-to-work or stay-at-work. Jill's expertise enables her to identify the services an individual may need to reach their goal. Jill collaborates with a team of specialists on the RETAIN-CT program, as well as with participant's employers or providers when needed. Her motto is, "*we will problem solve together*" and thinks of herself as a cheerleader/work advocate to get participants where they want to be.

COMING SOON

RETAIN-CT Project ECHO

In the coming weeks, all RETAIN providers will receive an invitation to participate in the RETAIN-CT Project ECHO, a hub-and-spoke model of medical peer learning that was developed at the

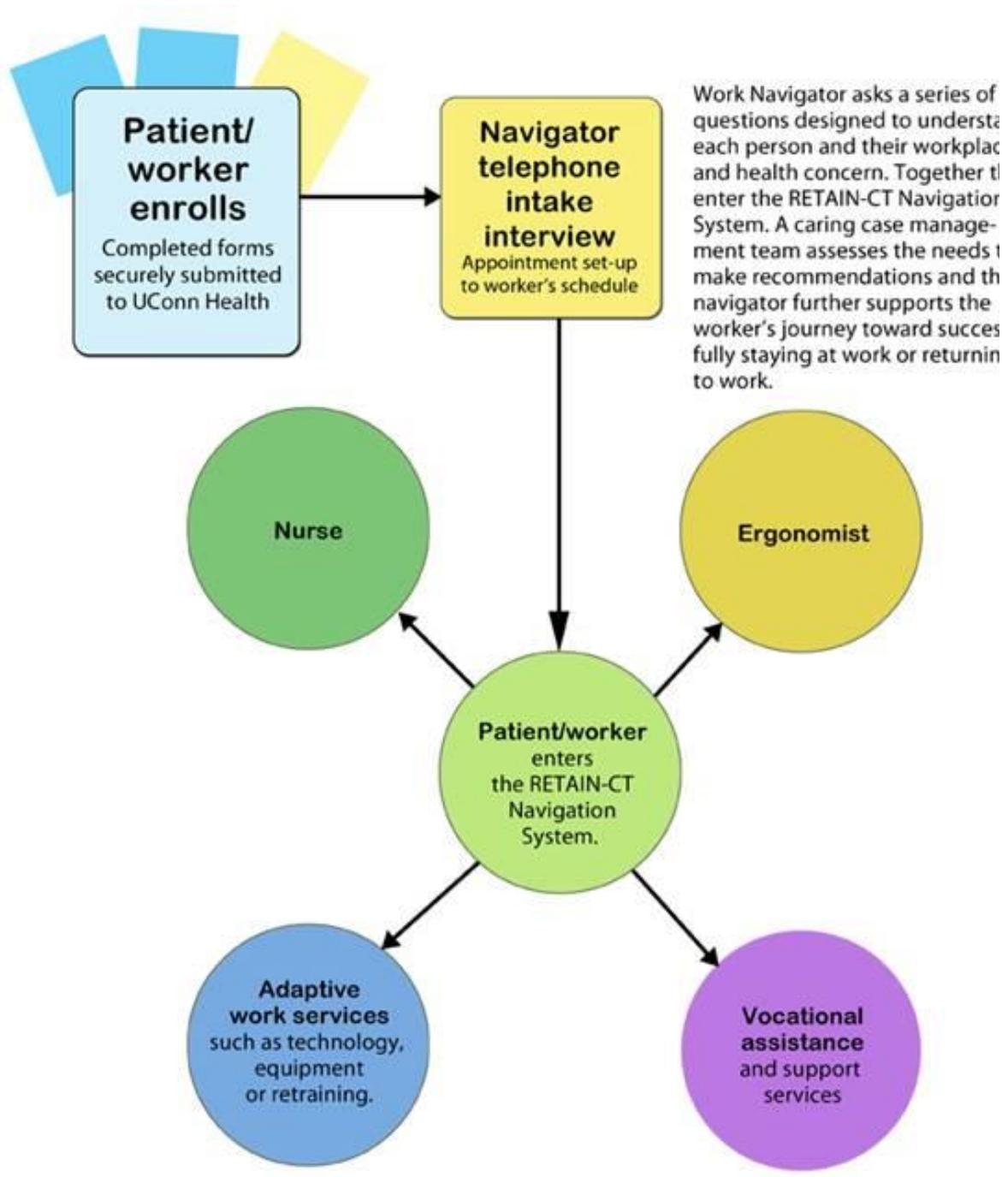
University of New Mexico and has been applied to specialty medical education in many regions and contexts. Six monthly webinar sessions (beginning in January) will include expert presenters, case presentations, and peer discussions on issues pertaining to the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders and work disability prevention. Participation will provide up to 9 hours of AMA PRA Category 1 CME credits (CME approval pending). ECHO Sessions will be from 7:30-9 AM on the second Thursday of every month. Please watch for the announcement and join your peers in this special Project ECHO for RETAIN-CT.

Space will be limited.



THE WORK NAVIGATOR PROCESS

Once the Work Navigator receives the patient information from the RETAIN-CT system, she reaches out to the worker via email or by phone. During the intake session, the Work Navigator listens compassionately to the participants workplace and health concerns. Through this conversation, the navigator assesses the worker's unique situation, and may offer instant resources or assignments as participants start their own personal journey. After the first intake interview, the case is presented to the RETAIN team of professionals for further problem-solving and strategies. The navigator then communicates back to the patient offering a return-to-work or stay-at-work customized plan.



Thank you to all of our providers and staff for your support.

Dr William Shaw, UConn Health

Karen Quesnel, CT Department of Labor

Questions or referrals to interested providers?

Please email us

at caldwellcover@uchc.edu or wshaw@uchc.edu.

Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine | Department of Medicine
263 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, CT 06030

retainct.com



Email sent by:

Janet Caldwell Cover | Outreach and Study Liaison

Occupational and Environmental Medicine | UConn Health

263 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, CT 06030-2017

Office: 860.679.6389

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