

Donna Valiant

Director



Biography

Donna Valiant is Work Injury Specialist and Ergonomist and leading health professional with over 30 years of experience in Injury Prevention and Management in Australia. Her experience has allowed her to work successfully with organisations to effect positive change in the fundamentals of injury prevention and management. Donna has worked extensively with employers, insurers and Governments to keep the focus on supporting people prevent injury, to stay at work, return to work and re-enter the workforce and is a passionate advocate for the Health Benefits of Good Work. She has a keen interest in the evidence supporting the biopsychosocial model of health management and believes that by taking a multi-professional approach to addressing identified workplace risks, the best outcomes are achieved. As an Ergonomist, Donna has worked closely with many employers to design safer systems of work using a person centred approach, collaboration and with adherence to the Principles of Good Work Design with compliance against Australian Standards and Codes of Practice. Donna has also conducted practical and pragmatic research in the field of office ergonomics (seating), exercise to reduce musculo-skeletal work burden in the red meat industry and vocational pathways for people with acquire brain injury.

As a business owner, Donna has a proven track record as an innovative leader and thinker; a person with vision who can clearly identify gaps in service provision and who can create ideas for change that prevent injury and make a real impact to people with illness and injury in the workforce. She and her team were recognised for their high levels of service excellence. Donna has successfully managed multiple large contracts with a range of Federal, State and Local government agencies with contract values to the value to \$2M.

Qualifications

BSc Physiotherapy (1986)

Nottingham, England

Graduate Diploma, Ergonomics (1993)

Latrobe University, Victoria

Australian Physiotherapy Association – Titled Occupational Health Physiotherapist, 2010

Accredited Workplace Return to Work and Rehabilitation Co-ordinator 2000

Cert IV Workplace Assessor and Trainer – 2000

Level 1 Mediation course 2009

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Australian Rehabilitation Providers Association- Presidents Award for Contribution to the Occupational Services Industry, 2017

Australian Rehabilitation Providers Association, Excellence Award for Exceptional Leadership, 2016

Winner, Worksafe Queensland, Return to Work Awards, 2015

Finalist, Worksafe Queensland, Return to Work Awards, 2014

Australian Physiotherapy Association, Excellence Award for Contribution to Occupational Health Physiotherapy, 2010

Awarded Australian Physiotherapy Association Titled Occupational Physiotherapist, 2010

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

2020: University of Qld (Recover Injury Research Unit) Delphi Study to prioritise best practise Vocational Rehabilitation Services for persons with brain injury in Queensland (current).

2019: University of Qld (Recover Injury Research Unit) Review of Vocational Rehabilitation Services for persons with brain injury in Queensland (current).

2008: APA Conference. The Implementation of an exercise program to reduce upper limb injuries in the red meat industry

2001: APA Conference. A user-centred approach to the design of an ergonomic office chair

1996: The usability and risk in the use of domestic vacuum cleaner, La Trobe University study

Managed Contracts

Disability Employment Services
City Council
ORAMs Contract, Occupational Services
State Govt (Qld), Occupational Services
WorkCover Qld
Private contracts with organisation

Other Relevant Information:

Evidence of Donnas' reputation and expertise in injury prevention and management:

- Invited technical expert, Meat Industry Advisory Committee
- Invited technical expert, disability employment forum to review systems and processes for DES client outcomes
- Invited panel expert, ASIEQ, barriers and facilitators for RTW
- Invited Stakeholder Reference Group. Workers compensation 5 years scheme review 2019

Testimonials

Tim Edwards, Former Safety Manager, Teys Australia

Teys Australia has been in the Australian Meat Industry since 1946. We made a strong commitment of further reducing workplace injuries by almost half over the next 3 years, (15% reduction each year). As part of our strategy we engaged Donna Valiant and her as a local and national consultant with the primary focus on injury prevention strategies. All while working closely with our national and site based Teys personnel Donna's knowledge and experience, has made the experience of consulting with them a truly pleasant and informative journey. With their assistance we have surpassed our targets and managed to reduce our injuries by 70%

Michael Fyfe. Former Health, Safety and compliance Manager Transdev Queensland

Donna and her team have been an integral component of our pre-employment, injury management, rehabilitation and return to work and risk management activities for over 4 years. During this time, we have enjoyed a collaborative working relationship with her and her team which has dramatically decreased our injury rates and increased our return to work time by:

- Risk Reduction Programs
- Enhanced focus on job demands during the hiring phase;
- Monitoring safety compliance by ensuring a risk management approach for all roles.
- Proactively managing return to work programs.

Donna and her team do more than just work with us They have become a part of the way we do business. They consistently provide the right advice, even when we don't realise we need it.

Nathan Clarke, CEO Australian Rehabilitation Providers Association

I have known Donna Valiant for many years now in my capacity as the ARPA National CEO. Donna is an expert in her understanding and knowledge of the workplace injury prevention and rehabilitation industry. Furthermore, she has very strong links to relevant government bodies, universities, insurers and workplaces, and is well respected by all stakeholders and above all, a terrific person to deal with!

She is very passionate about injury prevention and getting injured workers back to work as soon as practically and safely as possible, with the overall aim to help ensure individuals are able to regain their personal, social, occupational and economic independence. I can't recommend her highly enough.