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### Test-Retest Reliability of the Valpar Component Work Sample 8 (Simulated Assembly) [VCWS8]

Jessica Drysdale<sup>1</sup>, Judy Ranka<sup>1</sup>, Robert Heard<sup>1</sup>, Ev Innes<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW, Australia, <sup>2</sup>Southern Cross University, Tweed Heads, NSW, Australia

**Background:** Employment injuries in process workers are often associated with jobs requiring repetitive movements and the need to maintain machine-paced work rates. A range of work related assessments are used to determine return to work programs. One such assessment is the Valpar Component Work Sample 8 (VCWS 8) (Simulated Assembly). Although this assessment is used clinically, published indicators of reliability are unavailable. Questions are raised, therefore, about the degree to which the results obtained from this assessment can be trusted, and whether change in a worker's performance can be quantified. Further, questions are raised about the utility of this assessment in research and the degree to which it contributes to the generation of evidence for practice. **Aim:** This project aimed to investigate the test retest reliability of the VCWS 8 (simulated assembly) and to explore the relationship, if any, between perceived physical comfort levels experienced by individuals completing the assessment and their score. **Methods:** A quantitative study was designed to achieve these aims. A convenience sample of 30 uninjured adults are being tested with the VCWS 8 (simulated assembly) under controlled conditions and retested on a separate occasion. A visual analogue comfort scale is also being administered verbally. **Results:** Data collection is ongoing at present. When complete, Intra Class Correlation Coefficients (ICC 2,1) will be used to establish the test-retest reliability of pre and post raw score totals and method time measurement scores. The standard error of measurement will also be explored. Perceived comfort levels will be analysed relative to the test-retest results and the implications of these determined. The results and the significance of these to occupational therapy practice and research will be presented in this paper. **Learning Objectives:** Participants will learn about the test-retest reliability of the VCWS 8 and the implications of this to practice and research.