

BRAIN INJURY SYMPOSIUM

MARCH 25, 2023

Presented by the Brain Injury Association of New York
State and Rusk Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Health

Sessions and Agenda

8:30am - 8:35am Welcome from Brain Injury Symposium Committee Co-Chair

Brian Im, MD. Assistant Professor Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at NYU Grossman School of Medicine

8:35am - 9:15am Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Presenter: Terry Hopkins. Certified Vocational Counselor for the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine and Human Performance, Mount Sinai

During this session, attendees will learn about services provided during vocational therapies. There will also be discussion of how individuals can benefit from vocational therapy and who is eligible for these services.

9:15am - 9:55am Evaluation of Current Research Landscape on Long-term Outcomes After TBI

Presenter: Raj Kumar, PhD MPH. Instructor at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

This presentation will provide a review of the epidemiological and population health literature that have evaluated long-term outcomes among adult survivors who have sustained moderate-to-severe TBI. The data reviewed will focus primarily on the last ten years and span cognitive, psychological, and comorbid health-related outcomes.

9:55am -10:35am Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems: Longitudinal Research Examining Community Characteristics and Social Determinants in Resource and Informational Needs

Presenters:

- Michelle Smith, MPH, CHES. Assistant Research Scientist at Rusk Rehabilitation Department of Research*
- Olga Garduno-Ortega. Research Coordinator at Rusk Rehabilitation*
- Judy Wilson, OTR/L. Assistant Director, Occupational Therapy at Bellevue Hospital/NYU and Co-investigator Rusk Rehabilitation TBIMS*
- Tamara Bushnik, PhD, FACRM. Associate Professor and PI at Rusk Rehabilitation TBIMS, Director, Inter-Hospital Research & Knowledge Translation*

It is well-recognized that many factors affect how individuals recover after TBI. Research regarding the individual, community and social factors are key areas of interest at the Rusk Rehabilitation Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems (TBIMS). This presentation will review the national and local TBIMS, as well as provide research findings highlighting critical clinical research and social implications of examining the multidimensional nature of individual and community characteristics. These findings can serve as a guide for future programs to address gaps in the provision of health information, resources and care speaking to the varied needs of groups negatively impacted across their social determinants of health.

10:35-10:50 Break

10:50am -11:30am The Use of Assistive Technology to Maximize Independence with Daily Activities

Presenter: Holly A. Cohen, OTR/L, SCEM, STP. Program Manager-Assistive Technology/Driving Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Health

This session will explore the use of assistive technology to compensate for functional impairments an individual can experience following a newly acquired or long-standing disability. There will be focus on the importance of both low- and high-tech interventions, including modification of current mainstream technologies used daily, as well as the implementation of adaptive options. The use of case examples will be interspersed throughout the discussion.

11:30am - 12:10pm Brain Injury Rehabilitation Technologies

Presenter: William Tsai, MD. Fellow at NYU Rusk Rehabilitation

The presentation will focus on current rehabilitation technologies including, electrical stimulation, robotics, virtual reality, and gamified technologies.

12:10-12:55 Lunch

Lunch will be provided.

12:55pm - 1:35pm Care Management and Coordination of Patients with Brain Injury Who Experienced a Lapse in Care in the Community During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Presenters:

*-Monique Mercado, MS, FNP-BC. Nurse Practitioner at Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Health
-Sarah Spaventa, MS, APN, AGACNP-BC. Nurse Practitioner at Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Orthopedic Hospital*

Impacts from the shutdown during the Covid-19 Pandemic continue to be felt. For those that experienced a lapse of care due to community restrictions, re-introduction to care can be challenging. This session will review the consequences of the decrease in, and lack of, community services such as in-person therapies, outpatient visits and home health care since the recent pandemic. Notes about the reintegration into in-person clinic-based care and services will be presented, as well as the implications on care for future infectious disease outbreaks.

1:35pm - 2:15pm Speech Language Pathology: Telepractice and Expanding Coverage Area in the Wake of Covid-19

Presenter: Tina Focarile, MA, CCC-SLP. Senior Speech-Language Pathologist, Burke Rehabilitation Hospital

This presentation will provide an overview of telepractice services provided by speech-language pathologists in the wake of Covid-19 including guidelines, policies, assessment, intervention, outcomes and ethical considerations.

2:15 pm - 2:30 pm Break

3:30pm - 3:10pm Advocacy for Brain Injury: How Does it Impact You as a Health Care Professional?

Presenter: Christina LeBeau, Director of Engagement & Advocacy, Brain Injury Association of New York State

The Brain Injury Association of New York State provides advocacy with impacts felt by brain injury survivors and professionals in the field. Whether fighting to keep the TBI Waiver out of managed care, working to help all students who sustain a concussion or pushing for improvements in the worker compensation system, advocacy is an important part of ensuring the supports remain, on the care and professional side. This session will explore the importance of advocacy and how engagement is important.

3:10pm - 3:55pm Panel Discussion - Swimming Upstream with Your Rehab Team: How to Continue to Advocate for the Best Care for Your Patient

Moderators:

-Heidi Fusco, MD. Assistant Professor Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at NYU Grossman School of Medicine
-Erika Trovato, D.O., M.S. Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, Director, Brain Injury and Rehabilitation Program

Panelists:

- *Kirk Lercher, M.D., MBS. Director of Outpatient Traumatic Brain Injury Services, Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation*
- *Eric Watson, PhD. Assistant Professor and Clinical Rehabilitation Neuropsychologist, Department of Rehabilitation and Human Performance, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai*
- *Eileen Andreassi, MA, CTRS. Recreation Therapy Director, Burke Rehabilitation Hospital*
- *Jonathan Babia, RN, NYU Langone*
- *Rachel Rosenberg, LCSW. Senior Social Worker, Rusk Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Orthopedic Hospital*

This moderated panel will discuss the challenges and adversity that many health care professionals are facing in this post Covid-19 world. Whether insurance challenges, shorter rehab stays or families in crisis, continuing to work as a team to advocate for patients is incredibly important. Bringing together health care professionals from various organizations and disciplines, panelists will share their best practices in managing these situations.

BIANYS is recognized by the New York State Education Department of the Professions as an approved provider for the following professions: Physical Therapy and Physical Therapy Assistants, Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, CTLE, Social Work, Occupational Therapy and Occupational Therapy Assistants and Licensed Psychologists. For 2023, through their partnership with Rusk Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Health and the Rory Meyers College of Nursing, continuing education credits will be made available for nurses.

