

PTA PROGRAM 8th ANNUAL CLINICIAN APPRECIATION DAY
SPEAKER BIOS, SESSION DESCRIPTIONS & OBJECTIVES

Maximizing Recovery: Rehabilitation of the Patient with TBI across the Continuum of Care

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Dr. Noll earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Health and Exercise Science from Wake Forest University and a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Slippery Rock University. Dr. Noll is a board-certified Neurologic Clinical Specialist (NCS) and is a certified Brain Injury Specialist (Brain Injury Association of America). She earned her Neuro-IFRAH certification in 2010. Dr. Noll has fifteen years of clinical practice experience focused in the inpatient rehabilitation setting, specializing in the treatment of persons with neurological diagnoses. Dr. Noll served as a full-time faculty member in the Harcum College PTA program for two years, and in the Messiah University DPT program for two years; she continues to serve as an adjunct faculty member in their neurology coursework. Dr. Noll prioritizes clinical care that focuses on patient recovery and community re-integration, and she serves as a strong patient/family advocate for rehabilitation services and community access. She has presented nationally at APTA Next.

Course Description:

"Sometimes you have to forget what's gone, appreciate what still remains and look forward to what's coming next." (TBIHopeandInspiration.com)

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) disrupts the way the brain functions and affects a person's ability to perform functional activities at their prior level of ability. There are more than two million cases of TBI diagnosed each year in the United States (with concussions accounting for 80% of all diagnosed TBIs). Physical therapy can offer life-changing treatment for persons with a TBI. Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants guide persons with TBI in regaining their physical function and restoring their fitness and wellness. This course will provide an overview of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and physical therapy management related to TBI in various practice settings across the healthcare continuum of care. A case study approach allows the attendees to build understanding of the common impairments, activity limitations, and participation limitations seen in patients following TBI. Discussion will focus on the development of optimal, evidence based PT interventions to promote recovery for the client with TBI. The course instructor will discuss practical implementation tips, addressing the challenges associated with common cognitive and neurobehavioral impairments associated with TBI. The presenter will introduce commonly used outcome and assessment tools. The roles of the interdisciplinary team are discussed, emphasizing the role of the patient, family, healthcare team and community resources.

Objectives:

The participant will be able to:

- Summarize basic neuroanatomy and define the severity of brain injuries
- Outline the medical management of individual's s/p traumatic brain injury.
- Describe evidence-based treatment interventions for a patient s/p traumatic brain injury.
- Explain the impact of cognitive and neurobehavioral impairments on the PT plan of care and describe strategies for management during implementation of PT interventions.
- Develop an appropriate treatment plan for a patient with moderate to severe traumatic brain injury in various settings and at various stages of recovery.
- List the common outcomes assessment tools used for persons with traumatic brain injury.
- Identify community resources available to individual's s/p traumatic brain injury.