



16th Annual Brain Injury Conference

February 9, 2024 | Marriott Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre

PROGRAM AGENDA

Friday February 9, 2024 | 7:45 am – 4:45 pm EST | Marriot Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre

07:45 – 08:30 REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST (Grand Ballroom Foyer, Lower Convention Level)

08:30 – 08:45 WELCOMING REMARKS

Grand Ballroom

Paul Comper, PhD, CPsych

Clinical Neuropsychologist, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – University Health Network

08:45 – 09:30

(9:25 – 9:30 Q & A)

Grand Ballroom

THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OF MILD TBI: WHERE ARE WE NOW AND WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

Jeff Bazarian, MD MPH (Clinical Investigation)

Professor, Departments of Emergency Medicine & Neurology, University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry

This presentation will provide an overview of the current clinical approach to managing mild TBI in the emergency department and the evolving role of neuroimaging and blood-based biomarkers. Global efforts to develop a new TBI classification system and to create aftercare linkages will be discussed.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the obstacles to making a clinical diagnosis of mild TBI in emergency settings
2. List the most common clinical indicators of a traumatic intracranial injury after mild TBI
3. Discuss the potential utility of biomarkers such as S100B, UCH-L1 and GFAP in acute management of mild TBI.

09:30 – 10:15

(10:10 – 10:15 Q & A)

Grand Ballroom

MANAGING CONCUSSION IN THE DAYS (AND WEEKS) POST INJURY

Jeffrey Kutcher, MD, FAAN

Sports Neurologist, Global Director, The Kutcher Clinic

10:15 – 10:45

MORNING BREAK, POSTER (Trinity Ballroom, Salon 1) & SPONSOR EXHIBIT VIEWING (Foyer)

10:45 – 11:45

(11:25 – 11:45

Discussion)

Grand Ballroom

EXPERT PANEL: SYMPTOMS AND CURRENT BEST PRACTICES

10:45 - PERSISTENT HEADACHES FOLLOWING BRAIN INJURY

Jonathan Gladstone, MD, FRCPC

Director, Gladstone Headache Clinic, Consultant Neurologist, Headache Clinic, Hospital for Sick Children, Consultant Staff, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute,

University Health Network, Consultant Neurologist Toronto Raptors, Toronto Blue Jays, Raptors 905

This talk will cover clinical pearls in the diagnosis and management of persistent headaches following brain injury.

10:55 - SLEEP AND MILD BRAIN INJURY, CLINICAL AND RESEARCH UPDATES

Catherine Wiseman-Hakes, PhD

Assistant Clinical Professor, McMaster University, School of Rehabilitation Science; Scientist, Hull Ellis Concussion and Research Clinic Toronto Rehab Institute

This talk will address current research regarding changes in sleep and wakefulness following mTBI, the critical role of sleep in recovery, and best clinical practices.

11:05 - TAKING ONE STEP FORWARD – EXPLORING CHANGES IN BALANCE AND MOBILITY AFTER MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY IN ADULTS FROM THE GENERAL POPULATION

George Mochizuki, PhD

Assistant Professor, School of Kinesiology and Health Science, Faculty of Health, York University; Affiliate Scientist, KITE, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, University Health Network

This presentation will provide an overview of current knowledge regarding the changes in balance and mobility after mild traumatic brain injury in adults from the general population. Observations from ongoing work examining subjective and objective measures related to balance and mobility will be discussed.

11:15 – COGNITION

Tharshini Chandra, BSc Hon

Clinical Research Manager, The Hull-Ellis Concussion and Research Clinic, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, University Health Network

This presentation will give an overview of research findings from The Hull-Ellis Concussion and Research Clinic about the utility of neuropsychological testing in the acute and sub-acute stages post-concussion. The presentation will also address appropriate recommendations and timelines for cognitive assessment and treatment post-concussion.

11:25 – GROUP DISCUSSION

THE FOLLOWING THREE WORKSHOPS WILL RUN CONCURRENTLY FROM 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

11:45 – 12:45

Trinity Salon 4 & 5

WORKSHOP 1: EXERCISE AS A MODALITY OF RECOVERY

Michael Hutchison, MSc, PhD

Associate Professor University of Toronto; Director, Centre of Sport-Related Concussion, Innovation, and Knowledge; Scientist, National Hockey League Players' Association NHLPA

11:45 – 12:45

Bay

WORKSHOP 2: DIZZINESS INTERVENTION

Alexandra Young, PT, MSc (PT), MSc (Kin)

Physiotherapist, Brain Program, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, University Health Network

Dizziness is a common symptom in patients following mTBI. The purpose of this presentation is to provide a high-level overview of key dizziness assessment and treatment techniques according to latest clinical practice guidelines including BPPV assessment and treatment maneuvers, VOR testing and gaze-stability exercises, motion-sensitivity testing and habituation interventions, dizziness education materials and key messages, as well as oculomotor and CNS screening.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe common dizziness assessment techniques applicable to Mild Traumatic Brain Injury
2. Implement appropriate vestibular treatment strategies based on common dizziness presentations and assessment findings
3. Identify when ENT or specialty referrals are indicated.

11:45 – 12:45

York AB

WORKSHOP 3: MANAGING PERSISTENT CONCUSSION SYMPTOMS

Jeffrey Kutcher, MD, FAAN

Sports Neurologist, Global Director, The Kutcher Clinic

12:45 – 13:45

LUNCH, POSTER (Trinity Ballroom, Salon 1) & SPONSOR EXHIBIT VIEWING (Foyer)

13:45 – 14:30

(14:20 – 14:30 Q & A)
Grand Ballroom

THE JOURNEY THROUGH REHAB

Brian Williams

Retired Sportscaster, TSN

14:30 – 14:45

AFTERNOON BREAK, POSTER (Trinity Ballroom, Salon 1) & SPONSOR EXHIBIT VIEWING (Foyer)

14:45 – 15:45

Grand Ballroom

EXPERT PANEL: CHALLENGES OF LITIGATING MTBI CLAIMS

Jim Vigmond, Partner

Oatley Vigmond

Stacey Stevens, Partner

Thomson Rogers Law

Joseph Cescon, Partner

McLeish Orlando Lawyers

Litigating cases involving mild traumatic brain injury - often called the 'invisible injury' - is complex and challenging. Top legal experts will discuss many issues related to mTBI litigation in this one hour interactive panel session.

15:45 – 16:30

(16:20 – 16:30 Q & A)
Grand Ballroom

UPDATED ACRM CRITERIA FOR MTBI

Mark Bayley, MD, FRCPC

Program Medical Director and Psychiatrist-in-Chief, UHN-Toronto Rehabilitation

*Institute; Professor, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Faculty of
Medicine, University of Toronto*

16:30 – 16:45

Grand Ballroom

CLOSING REMARKS & PRIZE DRAWS

Paul Comper, PhD, CPsych

*Clinical Neuropsychologist, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – University Health
Network*
