



ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY

Educational Programs

Introductory ABI Series: How to Communicate with Persons with Acquired Brain Injury

- Date & Time:** Thursday, May 20, 2021, 1:00pm-4:00pm
- Cost:** Member \$60; Non-Member \$75; Call for Group Rates
- Register:** www.biama.org/abiprograms (Agenda and additional information found on website)
- Venue:** Virtual remote program – via ZOOM
- Faculty:** Therese O’Neil-Pirozzi, Sc.D., CCC-SLP

Description of Training:

Communication is an active process by which people exchange information, ideas, needs, and desires. Communication requires a sender and a receiver. It involves encoding a concept (the sender), transmitting that concept (the sender), and decoding the intended concept (the receiver). Communication breakdowns are common after such acquired brain injuries (ABIs) as anoxia, stroke, traumatic brain injury, and tumor. This presentation will focus on the steps involved in successful communication, causes of ABI communication breakdowns, and strategies to prevent as well as repair such breakdowns in everyday life.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- List the steps involved in successful communication
- Describe common everyday communication breakdowns caused by anoxia, aphasia, traumatic brain injury, and tumor
- Explain evidence-supported strategies to prevent and to repair communication breakdowns in everyday life situations

Faculty: Therese O’Neil-Pirozzi, Sc.D., CCC-SLP

Dr. O’Neil-Pirozzi is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Northeastern University. She is also research faculty in the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital/Harvard Medical School Traumatic Brain Injury Model System. Dr. O’Neil-Pirozzi is a skilled and experienced rehabilitation clinician and researcher who has worked with individuals with neurological disorders for more than 20 years. She is the author/co-author of numerous peer-reviewed publications, spanning a broad range of topic areas regarding the assessment and treatment of cognitive-communication impairments, including homeopathic treatment of mild traumatic brain injury and cognitive-behavioral orthotics, as well as cross-cultural caregiver and survivor responses to brain injury. Dr. O’Neil-Pirozzi is a long-time collaborator/partner of the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts.



Who Should Attend:

Participants for whom this series was developed include: Case Managers, Program Coordinators, Residential Program Staff, Day Support Program (e.g., club house) and Day Habilitation Staff, Certified Brain Injury Specialists, Nurses and Certified Nurse Assistants (CNAs), Occupational and Physical Therapy Assistants, Family Counselors and Other Mental Health Clinicians, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors, Home Health Agency Staff, and Community Support Workers.

Accommodations for the Differently Able: Individuals needing special accommodations please contact Laura MacFeeley at education@biama.org or 508-475-0032. Requests for ASL and CART services will be honored to the best of our ability, based on the availability of ASL/CART providers.