



# Brain-e-News

SPRING 2022

## RESOURCES

MOSS REHABILITATION  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
[www.mrrl.org](http://www.mrrl.org)

MOSSREHAB RESOURCE NET  
[www.mossresourcenet.org](http://www.mossresourcenet.org)

THE CENTER FOR OUTCOME  
MEASUREMENT IN BRAIN  
INJURY  
[www.tblms.org/combl](http://www.tblms.org/combl)

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA  
[WWW.BIAUSA.ORG](http://WWW.BIAUSA.ORG)

BRAIN INJURY RESOURCE LINE  
1-800-444-6443

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF  
PENNSYLVANIA  
[www.blapa.org](http://www.blapa.org)  
1-866-635-7097

BRAIN INJURY ALLIANCE OF  
NEW JERSEY  
[www.blanj.org](http://www.blanj.org)  
1-732-745-0200  
FAMILY HELPLINE  
1-800-669-4323

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF  
DELAWARE  
[www.blausa.org/Delaware/blah.htm](http://www.blausa.org/Delaware/blah.htm)  
1-800-411-0505

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH BRAIN INJURY  
HELPLINE  
1-866-412-4755  
TTY 1-877-232-7640

MODEL SYSTEM KNOWLEDGE  
TRANSLATION CENTER (MSKTC)  
[www.msktc.org](http://www.msktc.org)

[www.Brainline.org](http://www.Brainline.org)

## Andy Packel, PT, NCS is Contributing to a Multicenter Study of Inpatient Rehab for TBI

Moderate to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) results in difficulties in thinking, behaving, feeling, moving, and sensing that can have a devastating impact on an individual's ability to function independently at home and in the community. Comprehensive interdisciplinary inpatient rehabilitation can maximize function and reduce complications. Currently, a wide range of rehabilitation interventions are used, however clinicians still struggle with answering the question: "Which intervention approach is best for my patient?"

Funded through the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the



National Institute of  
Neurological Disorders  
and Stroke

*Comparing Treatment Approaches to Promote Inpatient Rehabilitation Effectiveness for Traumatic Brain Injury (CARE4TBI) Study*, aims to close this evidence gap by leveraging the infrastructure of the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research's TBI Model Systems, as well as recent advances in data capture through electronic medical records (EMR), and in advanced statistical methods to study rehabilitation strategies. Drs. Jennifer Bogner and Cynthia Beaulieu at Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and Dr. Erinn Hade at New York University Langone Health are co-leading this pragmatic observational study of nearly 1600 participants to be recruited through 15 TBI Model Systems sites, located across the United States in varied health systems and communities.



Andrew Packel, PT, NCS is making an important contribution this project by representing Moss to the multicenter, multidisciplinary team responsible for identifying and designing new data forms and response sets to be added to the standardized EMR. The aim is to capture data chronicling treatment and recovery during the natural course of a patient's hospitalization.

(con't on page 2)

## Where are they now? James Mickens

The Moss TBI Model System recently caught up with James Mickens who sustained a traumatic brain injury in December 2020 when he was struck by a car while walking. He refrained from thinking “why me?” after his accident and rose to the challenge of adjusting to life with a brain injury with a sense of resilience and ambition.



He previously worked for a non-profit organization in Philadelphia where he prepared meals for children with brain injuries. This was a rewarding experience for James, and he enjoyed connecting with the families through sharing recipes from different cultures. Cooking has always been a large part of James’ life. His acclaimed talent spread through his community, and he would often cook for events, such as graduation parties.



His favorites dishes to cook are barbeque and paella – a seafood and rice dish that includes shrimp, scallops, clams, and mussels. James looks forward to continuing helping others in his community, particularly through the comfort of a good meal. Thank you for letting us share your story, James!

## EMPOWERMENT GROUP



The Elkins Park Empowerment Group meets on the second Monday of each month from 5-6:30 virtually.  
Please contact Debbi Eisen at 215-663-6857 or [Debra.Eisen@jefferson.edu](mailto:Debra.Eisen@jefferson.edu)

## Andy Packel (con't from page 1)

Using these standardized data, the impact of different approaches to rehabilitation therapy on patient outcomes will be evaluated relative to their effectiveness in improving the person’s ability to care for themselves and to function at home, at work/school, and in the community by 1 year post-injury. Andy, working with the clinical frontline staff on Moss’ inpatient TBI unit, will provide input to the project regarding suggested EMR changes to capture this important clinical information accurately and efficiently. At the same time, they will work to make sure that the recommended changes integrate well into Moss’ current EMR to enhance daily documentation of care by the numerous therapists on the unit. At Moss he is joined by Drs. Amanda Rabinowitz and Mary Ferraro, as well as bioinformaticist Lisa Peck who make up the team of responsible for conduct of the project at Moss.

The Curing Coma Campaign ([www.curingcoma.org](http://www.curingcoma.org)) is committed to addressing the problem of prolonged unconsciousness as a treatable medical problem. A new organization, launched in 2019 by the Neurocritical Care Society, the Curing Coma Campaign (CCC), now includes multiple organizations and individuals in research and across the acute and post-acute care spectrum, with an interest in this clinical issue.

Historically, critical care research has been primarily concerned with survival and short-term outcome from coma. Rehabilitation research on disorders of consciousness (DOC) has focused on long-term outcomes but hasn't had the benefit of high-quality data about the acute injury and its treatment. The CCC hopes, over time, to develop longitudinal databases that house data regarding acute injury and early care, but continue on through post-acute rehabilitation and long-term outcome.

Importantly, simply by bringing together acute and post-acute care providers, the CCC has helped dispel the sense among many intensive care clinicians, that recovery from severe brain injury is hopeless. The collaborative effort has also attracted the attention of the National Institutes of Health, which co-hosted a series of state-of-the-science meetings to discuss what is already known about DOC and to set a research agenda for the advancement of the field.

The CCC is organized into several working groups which are addressing different aspects of the problem. Collectively, CCC authors have published 7 papers to date outlining the current state of the science and making recommendations for a future research agenda. Sponsorship of the second annual World Coma Day (March 22, 2022) is intended to raise awareness globally of the problem of coma, and of the developing work of the CCC.

## The BIA-PA Annual Conference

The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania's Annual Conference, Celebrating Connections and Collaboration in Brain Injury Rehabilitation, is being held in person this year: June 26-28, 2022 at Lancaster Marriott & Convention Center in Lancaster, PA.

- ◆ Designed for professionals, survivors, family members, caregivers, & volunteers
- ◆ 15 CEU in-person conference opportunities
- ◆ 7 bonus on-demand CEU's available after the conference
- ◆ Experts present on ethics, headaches, sleep, opioids, supports, and more!
- ◆ Exhibits & poster presentations
- ◆ Networking & social opportunities with safety protocols per CDC guidelines

For more information, including the full program and how to register, please use this link/address: <https://biapa.org/annualconference/>

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

### BIAPA'S 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Celebrating Connections and Collaboration  
in Brain Injury Rehabilitation

**JUNE 26-28, 2022**

LANCASTER MARRIOTT AT PENN SQUARE  
LANCASTER, PA

MossRehab at Elkins Park Hospital  
50 E. Township Line Road  
Elkins Park, PA 19027  
ATTN: Lauren McLaughlin



## The Moss TBI Model System

The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research has designated MossRehab as a Model System for traumatic brain injury since 1997. The TBI Model System program seeks to improve lives by creating and disseminating new knowledge about the course, treatment and outcomes of TBI.

**The Traumatic  
Brain Injury  
Model System  
(TBIMS)  
Centers for  
the current  
funding cycle  
(2017-2022)**

