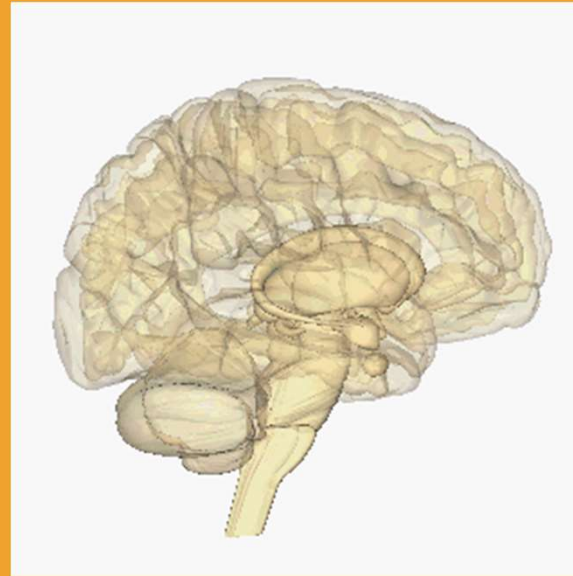


PTA Protocol Level 1



Brain injury education for non-clinical staff

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At the conclusion of this presentation, a participant will:

- Discuss what PTA means
- State how to identify if a patient is in PTA
- List at least 2 DO's and 2 DON'Ts when talking to patients in PTA



What is PTA?

- Post-Traumatic Amnesia (PTA) is a state of confusion brought on by physical and chemical changes in the brain after a traumatic brain injury.

How does PTA affect an individual?

- Individuals in PTA may:
 - Not be aware of where they are, the day of the week, why they are in the hospital (orientation)
 - Not be able to remember events that happened recently
 - Have disruptions in their sleep/wake cycle
 - Be easily upset and out of sorts, with fluctuating behaviors

How long does
it last?

- The duration of PTA is measured from the date of injury to when they are oriented with day-to-day recall.
- This is often a gradual process.

Is this why
patient's
answers are
so confusing
and odd at
times?

YES!

- The patient does not remember the event you're asking about and may 'make up' what they think is a reasonable answer. It could be prompted by a recent headline they saw, or a conversation they overheard.
- The patient is not lying to you. They simply are mixing up different pieces of information (some real, some not).
- There is no intention on their part to deceive you, nor are they "crazy". This is called **confabulation**.

Remember these DO's and DON'Ts

- **Do** introduce yourself; state your name and purpose
- **Do** provide information
- **Do** focus questions on the here and now
- Keep it **simple**

- **Don't** assume they remember you
- **Don't** ask the individual to recall information
- **Don't** quiz

Actions that let staff know a patient is on the PTA protocol

- An email will go to the *BIC_Inpatient* distribution list
 - An orange “dot” will be on their name tag outside of room
 - A communication order will be sent in AeCIS
 - An orange *PTA Protocol sign* will be placed in their room, above the bed
 - An orange sign will be attached to their wheelchair
 - An orange folder/reference log should be with them at all times
- ❖ The assigned speech therapist is responsible to INITIATE the PTA protocol, create the individualized reference log, and STOP the protocol when appropriate.

PTA Protocol Sign

Posted above
the bed and on
their wheelchair

PTA PROTOCOL:

- Introduce yourself on every encounter – state your purpose
- Do not quiz the patient – provide the info using the Reference Log
- Expect the need to repeat information

The Reference Log

PAGE

- 1) **INFO** for orientation completed by speech therapist
- 2) **ME** page info on patient, to be completed by the neuropsychology/social work team
- 3) **TEAM** pictures discipline descriptions
- 4) **CALENDAR** Two months
- 5) **Team COMMUNICATION**
- 6) **VISITOR** List

My name is _____

I am at MossRehab in Elkins Park, PA.

My room number is _____

I am at MossRehab because I have a brain injury.

My injury happened on _____ when I _____.

I have been at MossRehab since _____

ME

REFERENCE LOG

NAME AND AGE	PRESENT/PAST OCCUPATION
My name is: _____	I am (was): _____
My address is: _____	IN MY FREE TIME
My age is: _____	I like to: _____
My birthday is: _____	
FAMILY	IMPORTANT DETAILS
My family includes: _____	I wear glasses: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> full time <input type="checkbox"/> for reading
	I wear a hearing aid: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	Preferred language: _____

Reference Log: MossRehab Team Members

These are the primary team members who will coordinate your care. Other staff will work with you from time to time.

<p>Physician: Manages your health and medications.</p>  <p>Dr. Michael Glavin</p>	<p>Nurses (many!) Manages vital signs, medications, meals, shower of bath, toileting, showering.</p> 
<p>Physical Therapy: Works on mobility, balance, strength, and endurance.</p>  <p>Elizabeth Marcy</p>	<p>Occupational Therapy: Works on moving and thinking for daily routines.</p>  <p>Angela Long</p>
<p>Speech Therapy: Works to improve thinking, communication, and swallowing.</p>  <p>Dee Howell</p>	<p>Recreation Therapy: Works on leisure activities and outings.</p>  <p>C. Theresa</p>
<p>Social Work: Works with you and your family to plan for discharge.</p>  <p>Debrae Foster</p>	<p>Neuropsych: Helps you & your family understand how the brain is injured and how to adjust.</p>  <p>Dr. Elena Pavesio</p>

Reference Log - Team Communication

Date	Comment

Reference Log - Visitor List

Date	Visitor

Why is the PTA Protocol important?

- Patients may get **distressed** when they don't know the answer to seemingly obvious questions
- Patients are often **frustrated** by a barrage of questions which may affect their mood, participation and rapport
- The patient may not remember what you say, but they may remember how they feel

VIDEO

DON'Ts



PLAY VIDEO titled "PTA Don'ts"

VIDEO

Name at least 3 things Elizabeth does to support this patient in PTA.



PLAY VIDEO titled "PTA Do's"

Remember...

DO'S & DON'TS

- **Do** introduce yourself; state your name and purpose
- **Do** provide information
- **Do** focus questions on the here and now
- Keep it **simple**

- **Don't** assume they remember you
- **Don't** ask the individual to recall information
- **Don't** quiz

Authors & References

- These slides were created by a MossReahb Inpatient Brain Injury Center Work Group comprised of Nicole Bongart, Stephanie Farm, Eileen Fitzpatrick DeSalme, Elizabeth Marcy, Lisa Pinder, Deb Presutti, Amanda Rabinowitz and Mary Ferraro.
- Consultants: Tessa Hart, PhD, and Lyn Turkstra, PhD, CCC-SLP

Related Literature:

- Ponsford, J. et al., 2014. INCOG recommendations for management of cognition following TBI, Part I: Posttraumatic amnesia/delirium, *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*, 29, 4, 307.
- Sohlberg, M. & Turkstra, L. (2011). *Optimizing Cognitive Rehabilitation: Effective Instructional Methods*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Trevena-Peters, J. et al. ,2018. Efficacy of activities of daily living retraining during posttraumatic amnesia: A randomized controlled trial. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 99, 2, 329.