

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

2

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

- •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.

- 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.

	• Do introduce yourse			
Remember these DO's and DON'Ts	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

- ${}^{\:\raisebox{3.5pt}{\text{\circle*{1.5}}}}$ An email will go to the ${\it BIC_Inpatient}$ 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
- ${}^{\raisebox{3.5pt}{\text{\circle*{1.5}}}}$ 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.

8

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

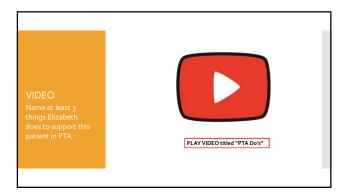
The Reference Log PAGE 1) INFO for orientation completed by speech therapist 2) ME page info on patient, to be completed by the neuropsychology/social work team 3) TEAM pictures discipline descriptions 4) CALENDAR Two months 5) Team COMMUNICATION 6) VISITOR List

10



- 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





Remember...



- 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
- Don't ask the individual to recall information
- Don't quiz

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