

## Conference Agenda

**7:15am to 8:00am**

Registration and Continental Breakfast

**8:00am to 8:15am**

Welcome and Introduction

**8:15am to 9:30am**

***The Art and Science of Distinguishing Disorders of Consciousness***

Ginger Nemenz, RN, BSN, CBIS, CCM  
(Shepherd Center)

**9:30am to 10:45am**

***Mild Brain Injury***

Deb Benson, Ph.D (Paradigm)

**10:45am to 11:00am**

Break

**11:00am to 12:15pm**

***Brain Injury Lesion site vs. Deficits***

Dr. Leonides Bermejo  
(CHI St Vincent Hot Springs)

**12:15pm to 1:15pm**

Lunch

**1:15pm to 2:30pm**

***Discharge Planning for the Complex Brain Injured Patient and Family***

Avery LaFleur, MSW (Craig Hospital)

**2:30pm to 2:45pm**

***Arkansas Trauma Rehab Program Update***

**2:45pm to 3:00pm**

Break

**3:00pm to 4:00pm**

***Explore Your Options: Technology Solutions for Communication Following Brain Injury***

Jeff Adams, Ed.D., CCC-SLP, CBIS (Easter Seals)

**4:00pm to 4:30pm**

***Evaluations and Adjourment***

***Join us for the 2018 Brain Injury Conference: Management and Treatment Issues presented by CHI St. Vincent, Arkansas Trauma Rehabilitation Program, and NeuroRestorative Timber Ridge.***

## Conference Program

This conference will provide the audience with current information regarding disorders of consciousness, mild brain injury, lesion site and associated deficits, discharge planning and use of technology for communication.

Participants will receive 6 continuing education units or contact hours, pending approval.

## Registration

Registration fee: \$55

Payable by credit card online at

[2018braininjuryconference.eventbrite.com](http://2018braininjuryconference.eventbrite.com)

Space is limited for this event. Register early to ensure your spot.

## Conflict of Interest Statement

*The speakers and planners of this conference have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest, which will impact the information in this session. They do not endorse any companies or commercial products.*



## 2018 Brain Injury Conference

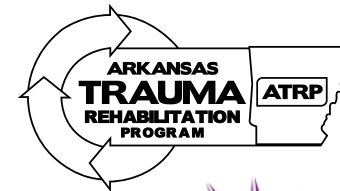
Management and Treatment Issues

### July 27, 2018

Benton Event Center

17322 Interstate 30, Benton, AR

PRESENTED BY:



Neuro  
Restorative™  
Timber Ridge

## Contact Hours

This program is designed for nurses, social workers, case managers, certified brain injury specialists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, and recreational therapists. All interested healthcare providers are welcome to attend.

Participants must attend the entire event and complete an evaluation to be awarded contact hours. Certificates will be provided at the end of the day. No partial credit will be given.

**Nursing:** Six nursing contact hours will be awarded. CHI St. Vincent is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Midwest Multistate Division, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation (ANCC COA).

**Case Management:** Pending CCM approval.

**Rehab Counseling:** Pending CCRC approval.

**Physical Therapy:** This course information has been submitted to the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy. Credits are pending.

**Occupational Therapy & Speech-Language Pathology:** This conference qualifies for six hours of continuing education as required by many state and local licensing boards and professional organizations. Save your course outline and certificate of completion, and contact your own board or organization for specific filing requirements.

**Social Work:** This conference qualifies for six hours of continuing education as required by the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board.

**Certified Brain Injury Specialist:** This conference qualifies for six (6) hours of continuing education as required by the American Academy for the Certification of Brain Injury Specialist.

## The Art and Science of Distinguishing Disorders of Consciousness

This presentation will define disorders of consciousness, differentiate criteria of DCO, coma, vegetative and minimally consciousness. Serial neurobehavioral testing tools for DOC, how to assess and provide clinical management of potential medical issues in this client population will be discussed.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will be able to define Disorders of Consciousness
2. Participants will be able to state how to test and properly assess the three stages of DOC
3. Participants will be able to describe how to clinically manage patients with DOC

Ginger Nemenz, RN, BSN, CBIS, CCM, graduated from Baptist College of Health Sciences in Memphis with her BSN. Ginger began her nursing career as a labor and delivery nurse in Memphis and transitioned to emergency department in 2003. She took the position of charge nurse and patient care coordinator of the 21 bed unit until making a career change to admission liaison for HealthSouth Rehab in Memphis. In 2010 Ginger accepted the position as an Access Case Manager for the admissions department at Shepherd Center in Atlanta, Georgia. She covers six states evaluating patients for potential admission to Shepherd. Ginger speaks at multiple hospitals and conferences across the country about brain injury and spinal cord injury.

## Mild Traumatic Brain Injury: Challenges, Strategies and Outcomes

This presentation will address common characteristics and challenges associated with diagnosis and treatment of patients with mild brain injury and include evidence-based management strategies to promote positive outcomes.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will be able to describe common physical, cognitive and emotional symptoms reported following mild TBI
2. Participants will be able to identify evidence-based diagnosis and treatment options for mild TBI survivors
3. Participants will be able to state factors that influence outcomes following mild TBI

Dr. Deborah Benson is a New York State licensed psychologist with a Ph.D. in Clinical Neuropsychology from the City University of New York and Board Certification in Rehabilitation Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology. She is an Associate Vice President

of Clinical Services for Paradigm Outcomes, the nation's leading provider of complex and catastrophic medical management. Over the course of her rehabilitation career, she has conducted research in neuroscience, provided care and consultation to brain injury survivors and families, taught/supervised neuropsychology students, coauthored/edited scholarly articles/books on brain injury rehabilitation and presented at numerous regional/national conferences. She has served on several organizational boards, received several advocacy awards and founded Common Ground Alliance, an all-volunteer led, non-profit membership organization on Long Island promoting long-term support and wellness for individuals with brain injury and their families.

## Brain Injury Lesion Site Vs. Deficits

This presentation summarizes guidelines for management of patient with severe TBI with review of cerebrovascular physiology that forms the basis of therapeutic strategies in TBI.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will be able to describe cerebrovascular physiology
2. Participants will be able to discuss pathophysiology of severe TBI
3. Participants will be able to discuss acute management of severe TBI

Leonides Bermejo, MD is a neurologist at CHI St. Vincent Hot Springs. She received her medical degree from University of East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Center and completed her Neurology Residency at Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center. Prior to becoming a physician, Dr. Bermejo was a Physical Therapist for 12 years working in a variety of settings including inpatient rehab. She holds board certification from American Board of Psychiatry Neurology.

## Discharge Planning for the Complex Brain Injured Patient and Family

This session will provide an overview of discharge planning from acute rehabilitation to home and community.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will be able to describe the complexities of discharging the brain injured patient and family
2. Participants will be able to report the process of identifying resources available in the community to the patient and family
3. Participants will be able to evaluate the discharge readiness of the family to support the brain injured patient

Avery LaFleur, MSW, has been a part of the Craig Hospital family since 2004. After completing his undergraduate

degrees at Wartburg College in Waverly, IA, Avery went on to get his Master's degree in Social Work at the University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work, Denver, CO where his emphasis was in Medical Social Work as well as Individual, Family and Group Counseling. He is also a guest professor for the University of Phoenix. Avery provides educational classes at Craig Hospital in the areas of Sexuality and Romance, Discharge Planning and Social Skills.

## Explore Your Options: Technology Solutions for Communication Following Brain Injury

This presentation will focus on the consideration process and application of assistive technology for communication across various levels of recovery following brain injury. A variety of technology options will be discussed, including low to high tech solutions for children and adults with cognitive-communicative impairment.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will be able to identify a systematic framework to assist therapists, educators, clients and families with determining an appropriate feature match of assistive technology with the identified needs of individuals with brain injuries
2. Participants will be able to state two low-tech communication options to assist individuals with brain injury
3. Participants will be able to identify two high-tech communication options (including iPad applications) to assist individuals with brain injury

Jeff Adams, Ed.D., CCC-SLP, CBIS is a speech-language pathology consultant and training coordinator with the Easterseals Arkansas Outreach Program. His 20-year work experience includes the provision of speech-language pathology services to children and adults with brain injury, cerebral palsy, autism and genetic syndromes in school and rehabilitation settings. Jeff is also an adjunct instructor in the Department of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences.

NAME

TITLE/POSITION

EMAIL (for confirmation)

FACILITY/COMPANY/AGENCY

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

PHONE

Continuing Education Units/Contact Hours

Nursing  CCM  CCRC  OT  SLP  SW

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration fee: \$55

Payable by credit card online (service fee will apply) at:  
[2018braininjuryconference.eventbrite.com](https://2018braininjuryconference.eventbrite.com)

*There are no refunds available for cancelled registrations. You may transfer your registration to someone else if you are unable to attend.*

### If you have any questions or special needs, or to register by mail with a check, please contact:

Karolyn Thompson, MBA, MS, CCC-SLP, CBIS  
Market Director Rehabilitation Services, CHI St. Vincent  
[2 St. Vincent Circle, Little Rock, AR 72205](https://2018braininjuryconference.eventbrite.com)  
or email [kbthompson@stvincenthealth.com](mailto:kbthompson@stvincenthealth.com)

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