

## **BRAIN INJURY REHABILITATION PROGRAM**

The nationally recognized Traumatic Brain Injury Program at Braintree Rehabilitation Hospital provides comprehensive medical and rehabilitation services to those who have sustained an acquired brain injury. The team, led by Program Medical Director Dr. Douglas Katz, provides progressive care in a concerted effort to optimize outcomes for TBI patients throughout the spectrum of injury severity. The Program utilizes several specialized assessments and protocols in the provision of care to those in the vegetative, minimally conscious, confusional and post confusional states, in addition to standard rehabilitation evaluations. Each tool then allows for more sensitive monitoring of progress within specific sub-segments of TBI population. Encapsulating a number of specialized protocols, clinics, and services, the TBI program facilitates the functional skill development necessary for attainment of maximal functional independence.

### **Program Features**

- Neurology Directed
- Comprehensive 24 hour medical management
- Interdisciplinary approach by Speech Therapy, OT, PT, CRRN and medicine evaluate and treat the cognitive and physical manifestations of traumatic brain injury.
- Specialized Clinics and Services
  - Tone Management Clinic
  - Wheelchair Seating Positioning Clinic
  - Orthotics and Prosthetics
  - Radiological Services (Inclusive for MBS)

## **SLOW TO RECOVER PROGRAM**

The Slow to Recover Program at Braintree Rehabilitation Hospital is provided for patients in the unconscious and minimally conscious states. More sensitive than generic rehabilitation assessments, the Slow to Recover evaluation allows for a substantially more accurate impression of the subtle evolution specific to those recovering from profound alterations of consciousness. Comprised of the JFK Coma Recovery Scale and the individualized Quantitative Assessment, the Slow to Recover Evaluation allows for detailed tracking of recovery and assists in guiding pharmacological treatment interventions. In addition, weekly Slow to Recover Neurology Rounds allow for a multidisciplinary discussion of patient status, response to pharmacostimulant trials, and treatment planning.

### ***Program Features***

- Weekly Slow to Recover rounds directed by Neurology allow for detailed tracking of consciousness and response to pharmacostimulant trials
- Admission Criteria
  - Vegetative State (Rancho Scale of 2 or higher) (must demonstrate spontaneous eye opening )

## **The CONFUSIONAL PROTOCOL**

The Confusional Protocol addresses the specific needs of patients presenting with Post-Traumatic Amnesia, a condition commonly seen after Brain Injury. Braintree Rehabilitation Hospital has identified a need for a consistent measure focused on the evolution of the confusional state, and the confusional addendum is designed to more accurately portray the progression of this phase of recovery.

The addendum is comprised of the Galvaston Orientation and Amnesia Test (G.O.A.T.), mental control tests, and measures of new learning, and is administered twice weekly by Speech Language Pathology and Occupational Therapy. These measures allow for more complete clinical profile and assist greatly in discharge planning and neurological monitoring.

In addition, as patients in the confusional state will often exhibit problems with behavioral regulation, several program features have been developed that serve to minimize environmental stimulation, provide quiet treatment areas, and promote staff training in general and patient specific behavioral intervention techniques.

### ***Program Features***

- Neuropsychology mediated behavioral assessment and management
- Weekly Behavioral Rounds directed by Neuropsychology
- Environmental controls designed to optimize safety and promote independence
- Structured Therapeutic Recreational Activities Program
- Group protocols specific to stages of recovery associated with brain injury

## **The POST-CONFUSIONAL PROTOCOL**

The Post Confusional Protocol, a unique feature of the Brain Injury Program at Braintree Rehabilitation Hospital, is designed to provide accurate clinical information regarding patients having emerged from post traumatic amnesia. The tool allows for ongoing assessment of cognitive functions that are likely to exhibit residual inefficiencies related to a traumatic brain injury, such as new learning, verbal fluency, speed of mental processing, and attentional capabilities. This information then guides treatment, assists in establishing prognoses, and informs discharge planning.

### ***Program Features***

- Focus on Community Reintegration via groups and individual treatments
- Emphasis on family and caregiver education and training in preparations for discharge