



**Acquired  
Brain Injury  
Network**

**November 3-4, 2008**  
*Hilton Toronto • Toronto*

### **Conference Presentation Abstract ~ Podium Presentation**

**Date/Time/Room:** Monday, November 3, 2008 1:30 pm – 2:15 pm Carmichael / Jackson

**Abstract ID:** 3d

**Title:**

**An Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Dataset: Dream or Reality: A Pilot Project**

**Authors:**

Rika Vander Laan, RN, MScN  
Angela Colantonio, Ph.D., OT Reg. (Ont).  
Daria Parsons, MSc.  
Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation, University of Toronto, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute

**Presenter:**

Rika Vander Laan RN, MScN., Consultant, Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation  
Angela Colantonio, Ph.D., OT Reg. (Ont)., Saunderson Family Chair in Acquired Brain Injury Research, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute; Associate Professor, Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, University of Toronto

**Summary:**

This pilot study addresses the need for meaningful information related to ABI, especially non traumatic ABI at a population level. The study examines the utility, feasibility, ease of accessing and linking data from secondary sources from a publicly insured health care system to create an ABI Dataset.

The pilot is a key component of a long standing objective of the ABI community to create an ABI Dataset in the province of Ontario. The work leading up to the pilot and the pilot itself are supported through the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation, as part of a larger ABI strategy.

Data was obtained from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for all Ontario patients, with an ABI diagnosis, admitted to acute care, rehabilitation or seen in the emergency department over 3 fiscal years. Secondary data analysis of cross-sectional and longitudinal data was conducted and the main outcome measures were: patient demographics, clinical data length of stay (LOS), discharge destination, death, and assessment of data comprehensiveness /quality.

This presentation will present methodological and logistical issues related to linking 3 types of data sets across diagnoses using ICD-10 codes. Particular issues related to combining data on ABI from non-traumatic versus non-traumatic sources will also be discussed.

Implications for ongoing access to data and comprehensive analysis will also be discussed. There will be opportunity for questions about the process and the data.

**Outcomes/Objectives:**

Creating an ABI dataset is complex but needed for the planning of both acute and post acute care. Particular issues include selection of the appropriate diagnostic codes, especially for non traumatic ABIs, capturing patients with a mild ABI and coding of patients with an ABI consistently across datasets.