



**Acquired
Brain Injury
Network**

November 3-4, 2008
Hilton Toronto • Toronto

Conference Presentation Abstract ~ Poster

Abstract ID: 04

Title:

Educational Needs in Traumatic Brain Injury among Healthcare Workers at Bridgepoint Health

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Summary:

Objective: To investigate the educational needs in traumatic brain injury (TBI) among healthcare workers (HCWs) whose primary expertise is not TBI (non-expert HCWs).

Methods: Twenty-six non-expert HCWs at Bridgepoint Health completed TBI Educational Needs Questionnaire that explored attitudes, educational and practical experiences, areas of interest, educational preferences and attitudes towards interprofessional management in TBI.

Results: 96% of HCWs expressed interest in TBI, but only 32% were comfortable with managing TBI patients. Inadequate education was the main reason for discomfort (60%), and 81% stated that more time should be devoted to TBI training. Areas of interest in TBI included rehabilitation (96%), cognitive (87%), behavioural (87%) and physical complications (57%), pathophysiology (52%), social (44%) and family (44%) issues, acute treatment (39%) and available support programs (39%). Teamwork was highly rated (84%), but only 61% felt that it was necessary for TBI management. HCWs indicated that TBI course should be free (84%), not mandated by institution (89%) and last less than 12 weeks (82%). Only 52% of HCWs were comfortable with online course format, possibly because only 52% have taken online course before and 41% have access to high-speed internet.

Conclusions: Non-expert HCWs should be offered a brief (less than 12 weeks) course on TBI that will be free and address acute treatment and rehabilitation, cognitive, behavioural and physical complications, social and family issues, and available support programs related to TBI. Appropriate training and access to high-speed internet should be provided if the course is to be administered online.

Outcomes/Objectives:

Many TBI patients identify lack of knowledge about TBI among their healthcare providers as the sources of frustration, worrying and uncertainty. Correspondingly, non-expert HCWs expressed interest and lack of education in TBI. A brief, focused course on TBI should be offered to non-expert HCWs at Bridgepoint Health who may provide care for TBI patients.