



Toronto  
**Acquired  
Brain Injury**  
Network

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## **Conference Presentation Abstract ~ Poster**

**Abstract ID:** 07

**Title:**

**Want To Go To Rehab and They Say No, No, No! Challenges in Meeting the Rehabilitation Needs of Cognitively Impaired Patients in the Neuro-Oncology Population: A Case Study**

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**Summary:**

St. Michael's Hospital Neurosurgery Program services over 300 neuro-oncology patients annually. Multimodal approaches to care (surgery, radiation and chemotherapy) have increased the survival rates in this patient population subsequently increasing the demands rehabilitation services. Rehabilitation placement for the neuro-oncology patients is often challenging in the presence of impaired cognition and increased co-morbidity burden associated with radiation/chemotherapy treatment.

Neuro-oncology patients are experiencing increased length of stay in the acute care setting as the availability of appropriate rehabilitation options are limited. The benefit of in patient rehabilitation for patients with cognitive and behavioural difficulties who also require radiation/chemotherapy treatment has been noted. Despite this fact, the barriers to access this valuable resource persist.

This poster presentation will utilize a case study approach to underscore current challenges and barriers that health care practitioners face in trying to meet the needs of their patients in the post acute setting. Opportunities for improvement across various levels of the health care system will also be highlighted.

**Outcomes/Objectives:**

Increase awareness of gaps and barriers for this patient population.