



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Research, Training & Outcome Center for Brain Injury at the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana (RHI) announces groundbreaking educational webinar on

Opioids & Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI): An Unrecognized Relationship

Indianapolis, Indiana, October 25, 2019 – Research, Training & Outcome Center for Brain Injury at the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, a leading institution in the field of medical rehabilitation, received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) for the purpose of the prevention of prescription drug overdose particularly for those with a traumatic brain injury (TBI).

WHAT: The goal of the grant is to provide practical recommendations intended to reduce the rate of opioid misuse and overdose for a particularly high-risk group of people with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). The project is headed by Dr. Lance Trexler, clinical neuropsychologist, Executive Director, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Research and Program Development, Departments of Rehabilitation Neuropsychology and Resource Facilitation, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Indiana University School of Medicine as principal investigator. Grant Partner Katie Hokanson, Director, Trauma and Injury Prevention from Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH).

WHY: Because of the consequences of traumatic brain injury (TBI), people with TBI are at a significantly greater risk for opioid addiction and overdose as compared to those without TBI. More than 60% of patients with TBI are discharged on an opioid<sup>1</sup>. Based on analyses of 14,398 subjects in the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems, it was found that people with TBI were found to be 11 times more likely to die of overdose than the non-brain injured population.<sup>2</sup> Last, most prescribers are not aware that they are prescribing opioids for an individual with TBI. We have in Indiana approximately 122,000 citizens living with chronic disability from TBI who are at high risk for opioid misuse/overdose.

WHO: Intended Audience (by general professional designation): Physicians, Pharmacists, Pharmacy Techs, Nurses, Physician Assistants, Social Workers, Behavioral health treatment providers, Therapists, Counselors, Medical Professionals, Psychologists, Addiction Specialists, Case Managers, Peer Specialists and others in the field of brain injury.

HOW: A webinar to introduce Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)-specific issues related to prescribing opioids and opioid misuse. In this webinar, TBI researchers and expert practitioners will provide practical recommendations intended to reduce the rate of opioid misuse and overdose for a particularly high-risk group of people with TBI. Presenters will cover "What is a TBI?", "How to Screen for TBI", "Increased Risk for Opioid Misuse follow TBI", "Review of Recommendations" and "Where to Find Brain Injury Resources & Supports."

WHERE: Online, this on-demand webinar can be accessed through INTrain. Create an Account at <a href="https://www.train.org/indiana">www.train.org/indiana</a>. Register for the course by selecting Training Plan ID: 4122 or by searching for "Opioids & TBI: An Unrecognized Relationship."

This webinar was funded by a grant to RHI from the ISDH and the CDC Rapid Response Project Grant 5 NU17CE002721-03-00.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hammond, FM, Barrett, RS, Shea, T et. al. (2015). Psychotropic medication use during inpatient rehabilitation for traumatic brain injury. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 96 (8Suppl 3): S256-73.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Hammond, FM Ketchum JM, Dams-O'Connor K, et. al. (in preparation). Mortality Secondary to Unintentional Poisoning after Inpatient Rehabilitation for Traumatic Brain Injury.

Funding for this webinar was made possible (in part) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through the Indiana State Department of Health. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

## More detail about this webinar:

Presenters in this webinar include the following experts in the field of brain injury:

Lance Trexler, PhD, FACRM, Executive Director, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Research and Program Development, Departments of Rehabilitation Neuropsychology and Resource Facilitation, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Indiana University School of Medicine.

**Flora Hammond, MD,** Nila Covalt Professor and Chair, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Indiana University School of Medicine; Chief of Medical Affairs, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana.

**John D. Corrigan, PhD,** Professor, Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Ohio State University.

Shashank J. Davé, DO, FAAPMR, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Department of Neurology, Indiana University School of Medicine.

**Wendy Waldman, BSW, CBIST**, Brain Injury Continuum Outreach Manager, Northwest Brain Injury Center, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana.

## General subject area:

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)-specific issues related to prescribing opioids and opioid misuse.

Estimated length of the course in hours: 2 hours: broken down to 2, 1-hour recordings. Learners must watch 1st recording before viewing 2nd recording.

## **Continuing Education**



In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Indiana University School of Medicine and the Rehabilitation

Hospital of Indiana. Indiana University School of Medicine is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana (RHI) is an acute care rehabilitation hospital for inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation. RHI specializes in brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, and comprehensive medical rehabilitation for injuries or illnesses resulting in loss of function. RHI is a community collaboration between Indiana University Health and Ascension St. Vincent.

https://www.rhin.com

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