

May 24, 2017 | Toronto Marriott Bloor Yorkville Hotel

Understanding the Healing Brain

How NEUROPLASTICITY is changing the way brain survivors find HELP and HOPE

Presented
by



HOWIE, SACKS & HENRY LLP
PERSONAL INJURY LAW



7:45 – 8:30	Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 8:45	Welcoming Remarks Renée Vinett, Partner, Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP John Welton, Partner, Henderson Structured Settlements LP
8:45 – 10:45	The Brain's Way of Healing: The New Neuroplastic Approaches for Traumatic Brain Injuries and Damage Norman Doidge, MD, FRCPC <i>Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto</i> <i>Lecturer and Researcher, Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, Columbia University Department of Psychiatry, New York</i> The standard approaches to traumatic brain injury have been based on a model of a brain as a complex biological computer, which, once damaged can not grow new connections, or parts, reorganize itself, or heal itself. For those who do not spontaneously recover from TBI, the prognosis is grim, and our treatments have largely addressed symptoms, instead of aiming to heal the damaged organ. The lecture will demonstrate the limits of that model, and discuss the discovery that the brain is neuroplastic. It will show how various kinds of stimulation, neuromodulation, attention to general cellular health, and neurodifferentiation can change brain structure, and that the brain has its own unique method of healing. Using film clips, it will document TBI and brain damaged patients who could not recover from standard approaches, restoring lost functions with neuroplastic approaches. It will introduce over half a dozen new neuroplastic treatments for brain damage, and relate them to five different stages of neuroplastic healing. Learning Objectives <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Understand the neuroplastic model of the brain2. List the five stages of neuroplastic healing3. Describe the relationship between at least six new neuroplastic treatments and the stages of neuroplastic healing
10:45 – 11:00	Refreshment Break

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11:00 – 12:00

Recruiting Neuroplasticity to Improve Outcomes for People with Post-concussion Syndrome

Lynda Thompson, Ph.D., C.Psych., BCN (Board Certified in Neurofeedback)
Executive Director, ADD Centre & Biofeedback Institute of Toronto

Neurofeedback and heart rate variability training are among the newer interventions that can be applied to ameliorate symptoms commonly found in people who do not fully recover from mild Traumatic Brain Injury. This presentation will outline components of a psychophysiological assessment that includes brain and heart metrics and explain how that information is used to develop a multi-modal intervention that improves functioning, in particular, self-regulation of mood, memory and attention. The primary components of the intervention are neurofeedback and heart rate variability (HRV) training and those techniques will be explained with a focus on how they are able to induce neuroplastic changes that restore appropriate brain function.

Learning Objectives

1. List components of assessments for post-concussion syndrome involving psychophysiological measures that can detect the effects of diffuse axonal injury (DAI)
2. Describe the basic connections between brain and heart to understand that both systems should be targeted to ameliorate symptoms arising from TBI
3. Become familiar with the treatment modalities of neurofeedback and heart rate variability training

12:00 – 12:15

About St. Michael's Hospital Head Injury Clinic

Andrew Baker, MD FRCPC
*Chief, Department of Critical Care
Medical Director, Trauma Neurosurgery Program
Professor, Departments of Anesthesia & Surgery
St. Michael's Hospital*

This presentation will give an overview of the approaches to concussion at St. Michael's Hospital. This presentation will provide an overview of advances in the understanding of concussion. The talk will highlight the coordination of efforts across Ontario.

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	Learning Objectives <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To increase the awareness of the multi-faceted approach to improving the lived experience of people after concussion2. To increase the understanding of the coordination of both clinical and research efforts in concussion in Ontario3. To provide examples of recent advances in concussion care
12:15 – 2:00	Hot Buffet Lunch
2:00 – 3:00	Alternative Treatment Plans for Clients: Challenges and Opportunities Panel Discussion <p>David Levy moderates this session</p> <p>Insurer's Position: Wanda Rumsam, Adjuster, All State Canada</p> <p>Defence Counsel Perspective: Kadey B.J. Schultz, Partner, Schultz Frost LLP</p> <p>Plaintiff Counsel Approach: David Levy, Managing Partner, Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP</p> <p>Law Clerk's Point of View: Tania Harris, Senior Law Clerk, Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP</p>
3:00 – 3:30	Refreshment Break
3:30 – 4:30	Panel Discussion (all) <p>Neil Sacks moderates discussion of all speakers about issues raised throughout the day</p>
4:30 – 4:45	Closing Remarks <p>Renee Vinett, Partner, Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP John Welton, Partner, Henderson Structured Settlements LP</p>
4:45	Cocktails