

Reconnecting After Concussion: Addressing PCS with IM



Course Description:

Post-Concussive Syndrome (PCS), also known as Mild Brain Injury, disrupts a core set of higher level cognitive/executive function skills, resulting in deficits in attention, memory, processing skills, and organization/planning. Additionally, mental endurance/cognitive fatigue is an issue. These deficits often require skilled intervention to reconnect the superhighway of the brain. Basic fundamentals needed to reconnect these higher level cognitive skills include timing, synchronicity, and focus – which are also some of the fundamentals of Interactive Metronome. Learn when and how to introduce IM into treatment sessions with this unique patient population. Intertwine traditional neuro-cognitive treatment with the IM modality to provide the most comprehensive treatment program for your patients. *This course is not offered for contact hours/CEUs.*

Target Audience:

- Speech and Language Pathologist
- Speech and Language Pathology Assistant
- Audiologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Licensed Medical, Rehabilitation or Mental Health Professional
- Music Therapist

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Identify key symptoms of post-concussive syndrome (PCS);
- Formulate clinical rationale for use of IM in this patient population;
- Develop and implement treatment plans for remediation of cognitive deficits with emphasis on improving temporal processing.

**Note: This course covers information that pertains to licensed therapists and therapy assistants. OTA and PTA professionals must practice IM under the supervision of a licensed OT or PT.*

Specific Learning Outcomes for Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists:

- Identify key symptoms of post-concussive syndrome (PCS);
- Formulate clinical rationale for use of IM in this patient population for remediation of speech-language, pragmatic, and cognitive-linguistic abilities associated with PCS;
- Develop and implement treatment plans for remediation of cognitive-communicative deficits with emphasis on improving temporal processing.

**Note: This course covers information that pertains to licensed therapists and therapy assistants. SLPA professionals must practice IM under the supervision of a licensed SLP.*

Instructor:

Heather Barr MS CCC-SLP has been a speech-language pathologist for over ten years. She has worked in diverse settings, with primary focus on inpatient/outpatient rehabilitation programs. She is the Speech Language Pathology Department Manager and Inpatient Brain Injury Program Leader at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of York. Heather obtained her BA at the University of Pittsburgh and her MS at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. She has further developed her clinical skills by obtaining certifications in NMES/VitalStim treatment, DPNS/FMEP, and LVST. Heather is also a Certified Brain Injury Specialist, ACBIS. She is a program co-leader/co-creator of a newly developed Neuro Work-Hardening program at HealthSouth York, combining PT, OT and ST service needs in a holistic and job-simulated environment for patients with neurological injuries. She has provided numerous educational seminars in the areas of Cognition (low level – high level), Post-Concussive Syndrome, and return to work after Brain Injury. Heather is also a certified Interactive Metronome Provider, implementing the use of the IM modality as an instrumental treatment option for the remediation of communication and cognitive dysfunctions.

Disclosures:

Instructor Financial Disclosure(s): Heather received an honorarium from Interactive Metronome, Inc for the development and presentation of this course. She does not receive royalties or any other form of compensation for the continued publication and use of educational materials she has authored. Heather does not sell or receive compensation for the sale of Interactive Metronome products.

Instructor Nonfinancial Disclosure(s): Heather is the Speech Language Pathology Department Manager and Inpatient Brain Injury Program Leader at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of York. She and her colleagues use Interactive Metronome in clinical practice at HealthSouth.

Course Content Disclosure:

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Agenda (60 minutes):

- Introduction & disclosure
- Signs/Symptoms of PCS (Post-Concussive Syndrome)
- Areas of cognition impacted by PCS
- IM clinical application with PCS patient population
- When/how to best incorporate IM into cognitive-linguistic treatment
- Take home messages

Instructional Methods:

LECTURE, PPT, PHOTOS, VIDEOS

Contact Hours/CEUs:

This course is not offered for contact hours/CEUs.