



Health Advocates Education Conference
April 26, 2019

PAINTING FUNCTION: Using fMRI, GOSE and RSW Documentation to Reveal Brain Injury and Catastrophic Impairment

Presented by:

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ABI + CAT Criteria Since June 1, 2016

1. More ABI Survivors can be CAT

2. fMRI shows Mild Brain Injury Changes

3. GOSE

4. Pre-accident problems

5. Recording Function and Support RSW Intervention

“Positive Findings”

“The injury shows positive finding on:”

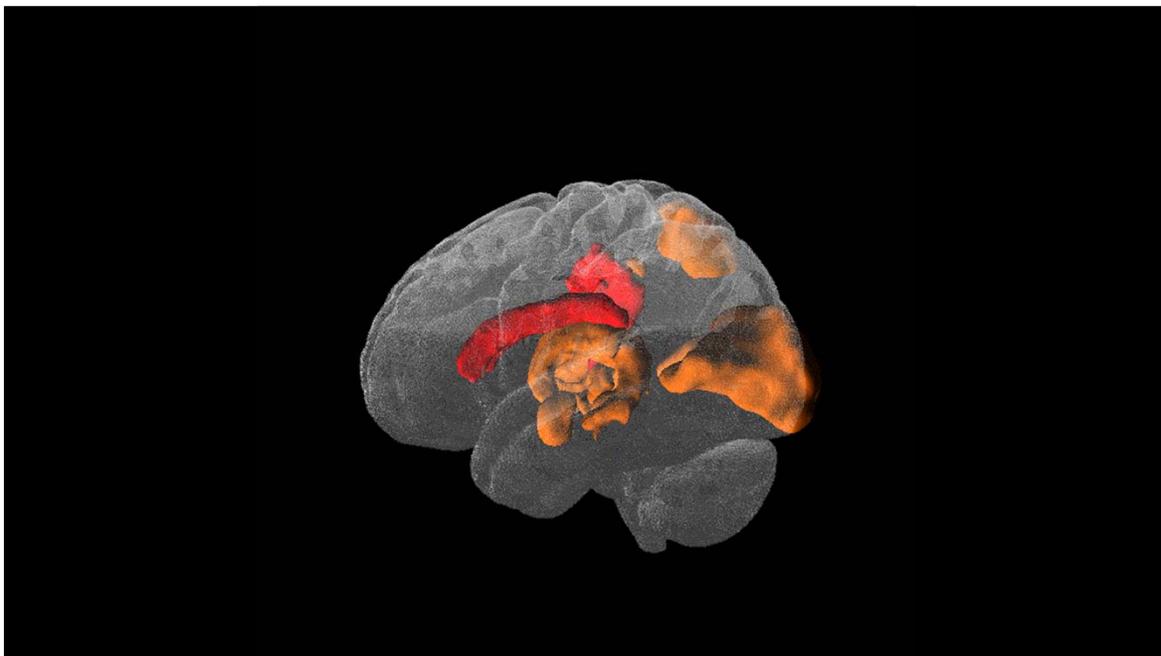
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“any other medically recognized brain diagnostic technology indicating intracranial pathology that is a result of the accident ...”

= fMRI

fMRI

- Damaged cells function differently physiologically
- Cells damaged water molecules flow out of cell
- fMRI maps free flowing water from damaged cells, and other indicia of brain injury



fMRI

- Computer shows abnormal findings compared to normal brain
- Visualizes damaged cells. Different pictures of impairment fMRI differentiates between:
 - ABI + Normal
 - ABI + Depression
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 - ABI + PTSD

Triaging the ABI Impairments

Days 1-10

- hospital / home

Days 10-20

- lawyer submits AB application under cover of letter
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Days 21-30

- Assessments of impairments
- Attendant Care
- Cognition
- Behaviour

Triaging the ABI Impairments

Days 30-40

- obtain collateral info from family
- RSW Tx Plan 2-3/week
- Identify goals and functional impairments
- In home and accessing community – examples of prompting + cueing (re adl, clothing, problem solving, decision making, socializing, planning, behaviours, memory)

Triaging the ABI Impairments

Days 41-90

- RSW notes provided to treating professionals, adjuster and Neuropsych
- Neuropsych testing
- RSW notes re family reported changes
- Examples of functional changes in GOSE activities (dependence, in home and out of home, shopping, travel, work, socializing with family & friends, leisure pursuits)

Triaging the ABI Impairments

Days 91-120

- Attendant Care Assessment repeated
- RSW notes shared
- Any difficulties in cueing and prompting required in self-care, ADL's, kitchen use, dressing, chores, social pragmatics, moderating behavioural changes, planning for outings, engaging in shopping, travel or social and leisure
- discuss plan re RTW or school with team & identify barriers

Triaging the ABI Impairments - GOSE

Days 121-180

- Arrange and obtain GOSE assessment which references on cueing & prompting examples from RSW notes, fMRI, psychiatry, neurology, speech & OT situational assessments and CAT reports
- Obtain up to date collateral information from friends and family re pre-post changes

Day 181

- CAT application submitted with lawyer letter highlighting urgency, that CAT definition is met and seeking agreement client is CAT so client's condition does not deteriorate

GOSE – AT SIX MONTHS

Findings of GOSE at six months are highly dependent on:

- attendant care, social worker/psychology assessments, and especially RSW notes.

GOSE Criteria

A. Vegetative State (VS or VS*), one month or more after the accident,

B. **Upper Severe Disability** (Upper SD or Upper SD*) or **Lower Severe Disability** (Lower SD or Lower SD*), six months or more after the accident, or

C. **Lower Moderate Disability** (Lower MD or Lower MD*), one year or more after the accident.

WHAT DOES THE ASTERISK * MEAN???

GOSE WILSON 1998 ARTICLE POINTERS & GUIDELINES

1. Interview family & close friends re function and needs
2. If answers to one of the Dependence questions (Q2-Q4) show s/he is no longer fully independent
“THEN THEY ARE SEVERELY DISABLED”
3. Re Q2a: if “they need to be prompted or reminded to do things . . . they are dependent”. Therefore,
SEVERELY DISABLED

GOSE POINTERS & GUIDELINES

Q2b patient is “in the lower category of severe if they cannot be left alone for 8 hours.”

(*) Lower SD*, Upper SD* and Lower MD* are CAT

*= patient was not fully independent before the injury

* Accommodates both thin skulled and crumbling skull applicants as more likely to be found CAT

GOSE Question 2a

INDEPENDENCE IN THE HOME

2a Is the assistance of another person at home essential every day for some activities of daily living?

1 = No

2 = Yes

If “No” go to question 3a

For a ‘No’ answer they should be able to look after themselves at home for 24 hours if necessary, though they need not actually look after themselves. Independence includes the ability to plan for and carry out the following activities: getting washed, putting on clean clothes without prompting, preparing food for the themselves, dealing with callers, and handling minor domestic crises. The person should be able to carry out activities without needing prompting or reminding, and should be capable of being left alone overnight.

GOSE QUESTIONS

GOSE Question 2a at 6 months

“Is the **assistance** of another person at home essential every day for some ADLs?”

[look at RSW notes re dependency, cueing & prompting]

If Yes, then s/he is CAT

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GOSE QUESTIONS

GOSE Question 2a at 6 months

If need **prompting or reminding (direct or indirect)**, if person needs help planning activities, need help dealing with callers, minor domestic crises, or not safe to leave alone overnight, **then, GOSE test says they need assistance.**

and s/he is CAT

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GOSE Question 2b

INDEPENDENCE IN THE HOME

2b Do they need frequent help or someone to be around at home most of the time?

1 = No (Upper SD)
2 = Yes (Lower SD)

For a 'No' answer they should be able to look after themselves at home for up to 8 hours during the day if necessary, though they need not actually look after themselves.

GOSE QUESTIONS

GOSE Question 2b

Do they need frequent help or someone to be around at home most of the time? Is help necessary for more than 8 hours/day? = Lower Severe Disability

If help, prompting, cueing, necessary for *less than 8* hours/day = Upper Severe Disability

1= No (Upper SD)

2= Yes (Lower SD)

If YES = CAT

If NO = CAT

GOSE Question 3a

INDEPENDENCE OUTSIDE THE HOME

3a Are they able to shop without assistance?

1 = No (Upper SD)

2 = Yes

This includes being able to plan what to buy, take care of money themselves, and behave appropriately in public. They need not normally shop, but must be able to do so.

GOSE, shopping and CAT

GOSE Question 3a at 6 months

“Is s/he able to shop without assistance?”
“Assistance” – look at examples for RSW notes and OT community assessments & collateral information examples from family



If NO, then s/he is CAT

GOSE, shopping and CAT

GOSE Question 3a at 6 months

If need help to plan what to buy, if need help with taking care of money or if may not behave appropriately in public or require assistance



then s/he is CAT

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GOSE Question 4a

INDEPENDENCE OUTSIDE THE HOME

4a Are they able to travel locally without assistance?

1 = No (Upper SD)
2 = Yes

They may drive or use public transport to get around. Ability to use a taxi is sufficient, provided the person can phone for it themselves and instruct the driver.

GOSE, local travel and CAT

GOSE Question 4a at 6 months

“Is s/he able to travel locally without assistance?”
“Assistance” when attempting task with RSW or OT was
client able to redirect, explain directions . . .



If Not, then s/he is CAT

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GOSE, local travel and CAT

GOSE Question 4a at 6 months

If need help to call, use money,
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GOSE Question 5a

WORK

5a Are they currently able to work to their previous capacity? 1 = No
2 = Yes

If they were working before, then their current capacity for work should be at the same level. If they were seeking work before, then the injury should not have adversely affected their chances of obtaining work or the level of work for which they are eligible. If the patient was a student before injury then their capacity for study should not have been adversely affected.

GOSE Question 5b

WORK

5b How restricted are they? 1 = a (Upper MD)
2 = b (Lower MD)

- a) Reduced work capacity.
- b) Able to work only in a sheltered workshop or non-competitive job, or currently unable to work.

GOSE, Work and CAT

GOSE Question 5a and 5b at one year

If can't work

Then CAT

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If restricted at work and is not
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GOSE + Social + Leisure Activities

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If unable to participate: rarely,
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GOSE, Socialization and CAT

GOSE Question 7a and 7b at one year

“Have there been psychological problems which have resulted
in ongoing family disruption or disruption to friendships?”

*See OT, Psychological, Social Worker, Neuropsych RSW notes re family &
friends engagement/disruption examples from collateral sources.

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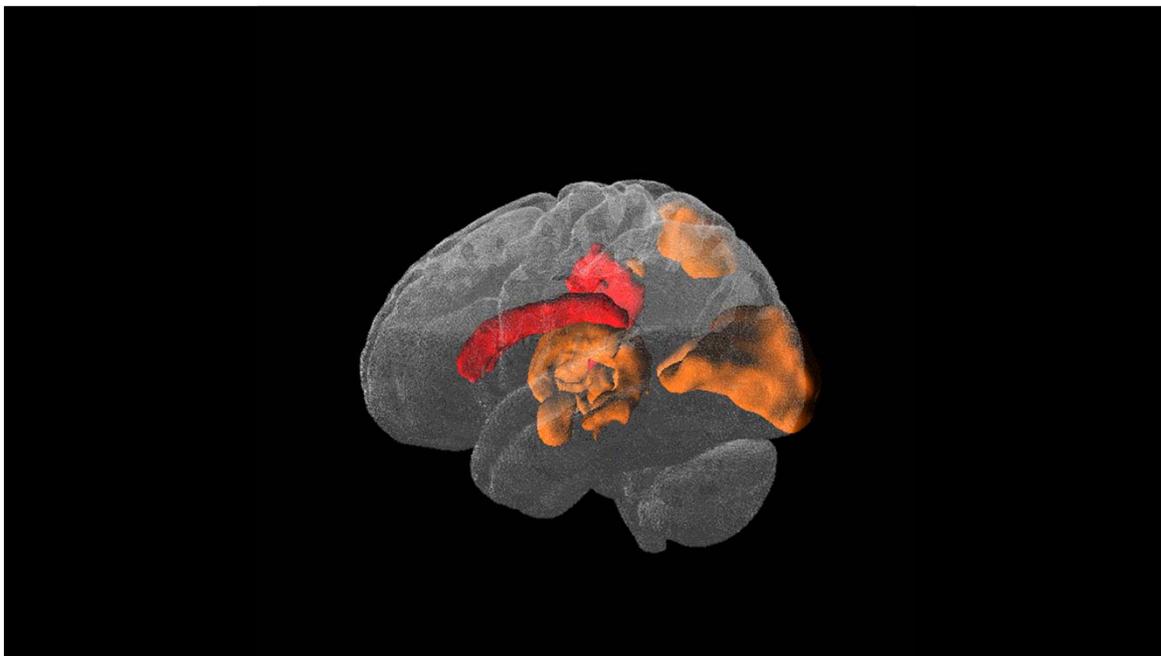
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