

Women and Brain Injury Inaugural Gender Symposium



1PM - 5PM SEPTEMBER 29, 2016
CHESTNUT CONFERENCE CENTRE,
TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

Women and Brain Injury - Half Day Symposium

Brain Injury Canada will hold its first ever Gender Symposium with internationally recognized speakers, service providers and researchers examining the latest research relevant to advancing practice particularly among vulnerable populations.

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is associated with permanent cognitive, physical, psychological, and social dysfunction and carries major personal and economic repercussions, yet historically, lack of knowledge has led to widespread misdiagnosis and inadequate treatment. It is estimated that 30% of reported cases of TBI occur among women, but little research exists exploring their healthcare experiences and psychosocial outcomes, despite evidence identifying significant sex and gender differences in outcomes. This lack of gendered information seriously inhibits diagnosis and appropriate intervention across the care continuum, affects the development and provision of appropriate healthcare services, and leaves women vulnerable to poor psychosocial outcomes and ongoing challenges such as increased rates of mental illness, disability, substance use, unemployment, and poverty.



The purpose of this half day symposium is to raise awareness around the need for gendered TBI research, increase understanding of specific challenges and areas of concern for brain injured women and girls, and provide current research results in a variety of focus areas relevant to healthcare professionals, researchers, service users and persons with lived experience. A panel of speakers, including representatives from the healthcare and knowledge communities along with women living with brain injury, will address biological, psychological, and social concerns across a range of contexts, providing valuable insight into the health needs and lived experiences of brain injured women and girls, enabling a wide range of care practitioners to effectively respond to this disadvantaged population. Our goal is to contribute to brain injury research and healthcare by providing invaluable gender-sensitive knowledge and key information for setting research and healthcare agendas.

Visit http://bit.ly/BIC_2016 to register for the conference

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SPEAKER LIST & GENERAL TOPICS

Moderator: Dr. Angela Colantonio, CIHR
Research Chair in Gender Work and Health, Director,
Rehabilitation Sciences Institute, University of Toronto



Dr. Angela Colantonio

Katherine Snedaker, LCSW, Executive Director,
Pink Concussions: *The Invisible Population Within the
Invisible Injury*



Katherine Snedaker

Reema Shafi, BSc.OT, M.A. Psych. University of Toronto:
Sex differences in the brain and neuroimaging



Reema Shafi



Dr. Jocelyn Harris

Dr. Jocelyn Harris, Assistant Professor,
McMaster University: *Mental health challenges
among women with TBI*

Dr. Emily Nalder, Assistant Professor,
University of Toronto: *Community Integration for
brain injured women*



Dr. Emily Nalder



Dr. Tatyana Mollayeva



Nneka MacGregor

Dr. Tatyana Mollayeva, University of Toronto:
*Traumatic brain injury due to assault at
the Ontario workplace*

Vanessa Amodio, M.Sc. OT,

Heather Bruch, M.Sc.OT. University of Toronto:
*Using the narratives of Ontarians with a work-
related traumatic brain injury to inform injury
prevention: A mixed methods approach.*



Vanessa Amodio



Heather Bruch



Dayna Jones

Nneka MacGregor, LL.B, Executive Director,
WomenatthecentrE: *Strangulation and brain injury
in women*

Dayna Jones, M.A., **Tracey Joseph**, B.Sc. University
of Toronto: *Battered and brain injured: University
of Toronto. Reviewing the impact of brain injury
on women survivors of intimate partner violence.*



Tracey Joseph



Halina (Lin) Haag

Halina (Lin) Haag, MSW, RSW, Wilfrid Laurier University:
*TBI in women survivors
of domestic violence*

