

## The Brain Injury Experience

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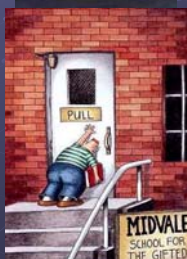
## Samantha: Bio

- MIT Bound
- High school left early
- Comm. College
- MIT Application
- Toothache
- New College, FL
- MIT Library Job
- Brain Surgery
- '93 BrainTmr ListServ
- '97 T.H.E. BRAIN TRUST
- '98 MIT Brain Trust
- '95-'99 Harvard CCC faculty (PHD)
- '99 Sailing, Shakespeare Salsa
- '98-00 NIH Advisor NCMRR
- '00-07 NABTC
- '05 SOS
- '06 Head Injury
- Slam poetry
- '07 Capitol Hill
- '08 Lyme disease
- '11 PPAT

## Functional Stories

1. Car Totaled (really???)
2. Losing Key To Car
3. Laundry
4. Not Charging Myrna (E.R.)
5. Door @ Doctors

- Social context
- Problem Solving
- Creativity



## Car Totaled

- Quarter
- Doctors Office
- Ticket
- Notice
- Second notice
- Checkbook
- Backpack
- One year
- Red Light
- Registration
- Tow truck



## Life Impact

- Fatigue
- Education
- Job (assistant)
- Relationships
- Family
- Social Isolation



## Strategies : Pass/Fail

- Routines
- PCA
- Myrna & Myrna Jean
- Organizer book
- Electronic organizer
- SLP



## Brain Injury

### Causes:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



## Brain Injury Causes

- **Trauma**
  - Car accident
  - Gunshot
  - Combat
  - Slip 'n fall
  - Violence
  - Sports
  - Injury
- **Disease**
  - Congenital
  - Brain tumor
  - Aneurism
  - Stroke / TIA
  - EMF
  - Chemical Sensitivity
- Infection, abscess
- Anoxia (drowning)
- Electrocution
- Myocardial infarction
- "Chemo-brain"
- Radiation
- Dementia
- Surgery
- Anesthesia
- Lyme
- MS
- Parkinson's
- HIV

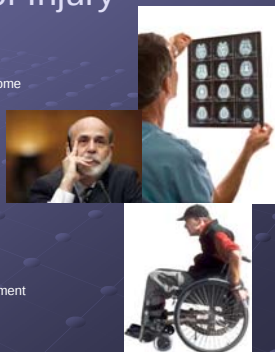
## Degree of Injury

### 1. Invisible:

- **Subtle**
  - Post Concussion Syndrome
  - TIA
  - Aging
- **Mild**
- **Moderate**

### 2. Visible:

- **Mild**
  - Cranial nerve damage
- **Moderate**
  - Paralysis
- **Severe**
  - Total Paralysis
  - Gross Cognitive Impairment



## Symptoms - 1

- Short term memory
- **Working memory**
- Confusion
- **Brain fog**
- Facial paralysis
- Limb paralysis
- Loss sensation
- **Facial recognition**
- Black & White Thinking
- Inability to understand humor (e.g., **sarcasm**)
- Time awareness (attn deficit)



## Symptoms - 2

- **Hangover**
- "Floating" Dock
- Light sensitivity / photophobia
- Seizures
- Blackouts
- Learning disabilities (e.g., dyslexia)
- Auditory processing
- Double vision
- Loss of taste / smell
- Hallucinations
- Psychic ability
- Fatigue



## Symptoms - 3

- Cognitive dysfunction
- Sequencing difficulty
- Organizational dysfunction
- Amnesia
- Retrograde Amnesia
- Balance difficulty
- Motor control issues
- Swallowing difficulty
- Dry eye
- Auditory processing
- Difficulty using technology



## Functional Limitation(s)

- ADLS
- Getting dressed
- Bill paying
- Scheduling (e.g., calendar)
- Initiation (e.g., scrolling)
- Using gmail (e.g., scrolling)
- Problem solving (e.g., **rental car**)
- Anger Management
- Meal Preparation (e.g., **popcorn flambe**)
- Remembering to eat (hunger)
- **Timers**
- Keeping routines
- Decision making
- Overwhelm
- Anxiety



## "New MOO Diet"

- "How I lost 20 pounds on The New MOO Diet"  
Author: Samantha J. Scolamiero (Diversity University) Jan. 1995



## Gaps in Care & Access

- No follow-up
- 8 visits of SLP
- Insurance caps
- Technology Expenses (e.g., PEAT)
- Proprietary Software
- Monthly Fees
- Advocacy
- Disability Itself (e.g., Doctor S 2008)
- Keeping Appointments
- Case Management



## Cognitive Prosthetics (Myrna)

- Organizers
- Timers
- Customization
- Center for Development



## Activities of Daily Living

- Laundry
- Grocery shopping (e.g., keys ·list ·money)
- Telephone answering machine
- Appointments (e.g., calendar)
- Safety (e.g., locking door)
- Hygiene (e.g., red flood)
- Hydration



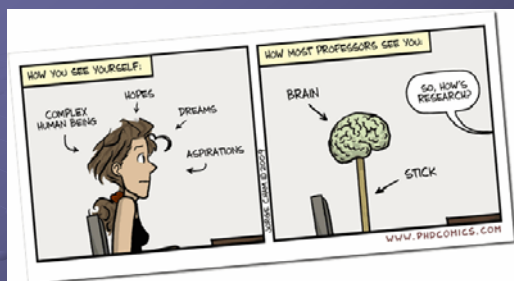
## Importance of Language

- Acquired Brain Injury vs. Traumatic B.I.
- Critique of video
- Mental illness
- Cognitive disability (e.g., Downs syndrome)
- Cognitive impairment
- Brain injury
- Developmental disabilities



## Your Career

1. Why you took this class?
2. Research to prove successful SLP/Interventional outcomes
3. Your Project
4. Commercial Aps
  - Non-Profit
  - Collaboration
  - MIT Ideas
  - MIT 50K
  - MPH
  - PhD SLP
  - PhD OT
  - PhD



## 5. We Need You

- Cognitive Rehab Research:
  - Need Proof for Funding
- Translational Research
  - MD-PhD
  - Speech Language Pathology-PhD
  - Occupational Therapy, PhD
  - Physical Therapy, PhD
- Medical Rehab Research
- Young Investigator Grants



## Thank You

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## Myrna Jean DEMO

