
Course Description

This course provides an overview of executive cognitive functions and presents assessment approaches designed to assess performance deficits as they pertain to community reintegration. As “control” functions, executive cognitive functions enable people to engage in controlled behavior beyond that based on impulse alone. Deficits in executive functioning are common after moderate and severe traumatic brain injury and greatly hinder one’s ability to resume adult social, vocational, family, and leisure roles. Through understanding these important elements of cognitive performance, rehabilitation professionals can conduct competent evaluations of an individual’s community reintegration following TBI.

Learning Objectives

Chapter 1: Rehabilitation and Recovery Issues Following TBI

The participant will

- Describe the recovery process following traumatic brain injury
- Understand the relationship between limbic drives and executive cognitive functioning
- Identify key community reintegration outcomes
- Identify characteristics of executive dysfunction that impact performance of everyday routines and activities
- Discuss how executive dysfunction can impact one’s ability to participate successfully in social relationships

Chapter 2: Assessment Overview

The participant will

- Select and utilize basic assessments for evaluating community participation following TBI
- Describe the role of goal setting in the assessment process following TBI
- Describe the role of self-awareness in the assessment process following TBI
- Appreciate the importance of self-reported life satisfaction following TBI to the functional assessment process
- Identify how impaired awareness of deficits can impact self-reported life satisfaction

Chapter 3: Question and Answer

- Question and answer session to discuss Chapter 1: Rehabilitation and Recovery Issues Following TBI
- Question and answer session to discuss Chapter 2: Assessment Overview