

Speaker Bio's

- **Rehabbing the Couple: Dr. Alex Terrill**
Dr. Terrill is an Associate Professor at the University of Utah Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies. She is a clinical psychologist, specializing in rehabilitation. Her research focuses on adjustment to chronic conditions such as stroke and associated disability, in particular as it relates to couples. In these areas, she has received NIH and foundation research funding, published over 30 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, and presented/co-authored over 50 oral and poster presentations at national and international conferences.
- **AHA Stroke Rehab GUIDELINES: Dr. Zorowitz**
Richard D. Zorowitz, M.D. is a graduate of the Tulane University School of Medicine. He completed an internship in internal medicine at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park, NY, and a residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Northwestern University, IL. He is board-certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Spinal Cord Injury Medicine, and Brain Injury Medicine.
Dr. Zorowitz focuses his clinical activities on the rehabilitation of stroke, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, and other neurological conditions. He specializes in the management of spasticity, including oral medications, botulinum toxin injections, and intrathecal baclofen. His research activities focus on stroke rehabilitation, including motor recovery, hemiplegic shoulder pain, dysphagia, spasticity, pseudobulbar affect, and functional outcomes.
Dr. Zorowitz is a fellow of the American Heart Association and is chair of the Rehabilitation and Recovery Committee of the Stroke Council. He has contributed to a number of clinical practice guidelines, including the Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Adult Stroke Rehabilitation Care (2005); and the American Stroke Association Writing Groups for Recommendations for the Establishment of Stroke Systems of Care (2005, 2019), Metrics of Comprehensive Stroke Centers (2005), Comprehensive Overview of Nursing and Interdisciplinary Rehabilitation Care of the Stroke Patient (2010), Metrics for Measuring Quality of Care in Comprehensive Stroke Centers: Detailed Follow-up to Brain Attack Coalition Comprehensive Stroke Center Recommendations (2011), Palliative and End-of-Life Care in Stroke (2014), and Adult Stroke Rehabilitation and Recovery (2016).
- **Teamwork Makes the Dreamwork: Interprofessional Post-Acute Stroke Rehabilitation Interventions: Catherine Off, Ph.D. Amanda Balser, OT, Dr. Jaclyn Carson**
Catherine Off, Ph.D. CCC-SLP, is a speech-language pathologist, associate professor, principal investigator of the Brain Research for Aphasia and Intensive Neurorehabilitation (BRAIN) Lab, and Founder and Co-director of the Big Sky Aphasia Program at the University of Montana. Her research focuses on patient,

family care partner, and student clinician outcomes in the context of high intensity, holistic service delivery models for the rehabilitation of stroke-related aphasia.

Amanda Balser has been an occupational therapist for 22 years and specializes in adult neurorehabilitation and complex mobility. She holds Board Certification in Physical Rehabilitation (BCPR) from the American Occupational Therapy Association, and is an Assistive Technology Professional and Seating and Mobility Specialist (ATP/SMS) through RESNA: The Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America.

Jaclyn Carson is a Clinical Physical Therapy Instructor at the University of Montana in the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science and Clinician at the University of Montana Physical Therapy Outpatient Clinic. Dr. Carson completed her undergraduate training at The University of Montana in Health and Human Performance – Health Promotion. She finished her DPT at the University of Montana School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science. Dr. Carson teaches several courses related to foundational knowledge/skills and neurologic rehabilitation, assists the clinical education department, and primarily treats patients with neurologic deficits and complex medical conditions at the on-site clinic independently in the mornings and in a 1:4 preceptor to physical therapy student ratio in the afternoons in the Integrated Clinical Education experience model. She is also serving a second two-year term as Clinical Director at Large for the National Consortium of Clinical Educators addressing the needs of the institutional pairings.

- Stroke is a Brain Injury- Resources Available: John Biggart
John is a native Montanan and has works as the executive director of the Brain Injury Alliance of Montana. Having worked in the non-profit sector since 2010, John specializes in working with individuals, their family members and healthcare professionals in Montana to help create a better future for brain injury survivors. In his free time John spends time outdoors with his family and is the mayor of the town that he lives in.
Stroke: Beyond the Bedside: Piper Kmetz, RN, BSN
Piper is a BSN, RN who has worked as an ICU RN at St. Vincent Healthcare in Billings as well as an ED RN, House Supervisor, and stroke program nurse at Bozeman Health. Her father suffered a R MCA occlusion in June 2020, and she has been assisting her family in his care as both a nurse and daughter. She is presenting on her crash course learning of post-acute stroke care and the transition of professional to personal in the setting of stroke.
- Special Considerations in Stroke Rehab: Transfer Techniques, Hemiplegic Arm Management, and Cognitive and Emotional Changes: Valerie Maeker, OTD, OTR/L, C/NDT
Valerie D. Maeker, OTD, OTR/l, Neuro-IFRAH certified, C/NDT, LSVT-Blg Certified has 27 years of occupational therapy (OT) experience, having graduated with her BS in Occupational Therapy from the University of Texas in Galveston in 1995. She has since added an MS in Gerontology from the University of Utah

(2000) and a clinical doctorate in OT from Creighton University (2014). Valerie has extensive experience working in inpatient rehab (specializing in neuro rehab), as well as experience in acute care, skilled care, outpatients, and home health. Currently she works at Stillwater Billings Clinic (SBC), which is a critical access hospital and for the University of Montana as the interim program coordination for the future OTD program. She also speaks Spanish (BS in Spanish, Texas Tech University, 1993). Valerie has three passions in her life—her family, OT, and education. Prior to joining the Stillwater Billings Clinic team, Valerie taught as an adjunct instructor for Creighton University and as associate professor for the University of Mary OT program.

- Neuroplasticity: How the Brain Works, Heals Itself; Post Stroke Pain; Clear Clinical Links Regarding Neuroplasticity and Rehab & Recovery: Thomas Bobroski, MPT
Thomas Bobroski, MPT is a neuro trained physical therapist with specialization in Stroke and Brain Injury for over 25 years, with career experience entirely in the inpatient rehabilitation setting. Current role focuses on quality outcomes and how we can best impact patient improvement at the inpatient rehab level of care and get patients back to the community the fastest way possible!