

ASSBI Newsletter

September 2020

Issue 72

Working together to improve the lives of people with brain impairment



WORDS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



As the COVID-19 pandemic continues its path of devastation my thoughts go out especially to any ASSBI member who has been personally affected by the pandemic. The world continues to live with restrictions on everyday living - within Australia our state borders remain closed and international travel is banned. The second wave has severely affected residents of metropolitan Melbourne who, as I write, are still under lockdown with Stage 4 restrictions, as is regional Victoria

with Stage 3 restrictions. May the situation be vastly improved come my next newsletter later this year.

In the December 2019 Newsletter, I heralded that ASSBI was planning to conduct an external review of the Society – its first review in 43 years of operation. In preparation for the review, ASSBI conducted an online survey of the membership in May 2020, and here I thank our working party (Jacinta Douglas, Olivier Piguet, and Dana Wong) who worked with me to draw up the survey items, feedback from the Committee, and the suggestions of those who piloted the survey for us. In this Newsletter, I am highlighting some results from the survey.

The 31-item survey was completed by 100 members (representing 25% of the membership). The overall satisfaction with ASSBI was high (8.45/10, SD=1.41, range 4-10; higher scores reflect higher satisfaction). Respondents were asked to rate the importance of 16 areas of ASSBI activity, together with their satisfaction. The table below summarises the findings - the first percentage represents 'importance', and the second percentage denotes 'satisfaction'. Significant proportions of respondents endorsed the 'don't know' response, especially for 'satisfaction' ratings which affect interpretation, and so those percentages are also included.

Importance / satisfaction of ASSBI activity	Not at all / a little	Somewhat	Quite a lot / very much	Don't know
Professional development				
- Conference	3.7% / 2.8%	7.4% / 0	85.2% / 76.1%	3.7% / 21.1%
- Webinars	2.5% / 0	7.5% / 8.7%	87.5% / 65.2%	2.5% / 26.1%
- Workshops	1.3% / 0	7.5% / 9.9%	90.0% / 71.8%	1.3% / 18.3%
Journal				
- <i>Brain Impairment</i>	3.8% / 1.4%	7.5% / 5.6%	87.5% / 81.7%	1.3% / 11.3%
Clinical resources				
- ASSBI Resources	0 / 1.4%	6.3% / 5.6%	89.8% / 64.8%	3.8% / 28.2%
- BRAINSPaN	5.1% / 5.6%	11.4% / 5.6%	68.4% / 67.6%	15.2% / 21.1%
- NeuroBITE	6.3% / 4.2%	10.1% / 4.2%	60.8% / 52.1%	22.8% / 39.4%
Communication with members				
- Website	5.2% / 7.0%	15.4% / 8.5%	79.5% / 71.9%	0 / 12.7%
- Social media	18.0% / 7.0%	29.5% / 12.7%	44.9% / 26.7%	7.7% / 53.5%
- Newsletters	1.4% / 7.6%	19.9% / 7.0%	73.4% / 81.7%	0 / 9.9%
Professional networking/identity				
- Networking opportunity	2.6% / 4.3%	12.8% / 14.3%	80.8% / 58.6%	3.9% / 22.9%
- Professional identity	6.3% / 1.4%	10.1% / 14.3%	73.4% / 61.4%	10.1% / 22.9%
Students				
- Student teams/activity	9.1% / 7.0%	16.9% / 9.9%	57.2% / 31.0%	16.9% / 52.1%
- Prizes and awards	19.5% / 1.4%	26.0% / 8.6%	45.5% / 42.9%	9.1% / 47.1%
People with lived experience				
- Involvement in ASSBI	3.9% / 9.9%	6.4% / 25.4%	83.3% / 38.0%	6.4% / 26.8%
- Advocacy	7.7% / 5.8%	10.3% / 20.3%	77.0% / 39.1%	5.1% / 34.8%

Survey respondents also provided helpful perspectives on a range of issues, including suggestions about raising ASSBI's profile and visibility, and ASSBI's relevance for people with lived experience of brain impairment. One question regarding the ideal geographical coverage received a wide variety of responses. Five possible configurations were presented: (i) Australia, New Zealand, neighbouring Pacific Islands and Asia was endorsed by the largest proportion of respondents (41.6%), followed by (ii) Australia, New Zealand, and neighbouring Pacific Islands (28.6%), (iii) Australia and New Zealand (20.8%), (iv) Australia only (6.5%), and (v) other configurations (2.6%). This information needs to be considered further (including at an AGM) before any recommendation could be made about changing ASSBI coverage. At present, ASSBI's geographical coverage applies to Australasia (Australia, New Zealand and neighbouring Pacific islands).

It was gratifying to see that many respondents regard ASSBI as being a welcoming community that was friendly, approachable, generous, inclusive, supportive, and collegiate; a society where members felt a sense of belonging. ASSBI's multidisciplinary focus was seen as one of its most attractive features. Overall, the membership survey results suggest that ASSBI is on the right track, but there are areas where we can improve service to our members and the broader community. Results from the survey have yielded very rich data which the Committee will be considering further and will use not only to inform the external review, but also its forward plan for the Society. I welcome your responses to this brief summary, so please send me your comments. I will keep you informed, via this Newsletter and the ASSBI website, about next steps regarding the external review.

My very best wishes to you all,
Robyn Tate,
President

CEO'S REPORT



Please enjoy this newsletter and don't forget to get copy for the December Newsletter to me by 15th November 2020. One of my favourite people, Barbara Wilson, gave a webinar in August and will deliver another one in a few days on the 4th September. If you are a clinician, you can't miss this.

Cheers, Margaret Eagers, CEO

SOCIAL MEDIA



Like us on [Facebook](#),
Follow [ASSBI](#) on Twitter
Become a contact on LinkedIn

If you have anything interesting you would like tweeted or mentioned on facebook, contact Lizzie or Travis via admin@assbi.com.au.

WEBSITE

Signing in, whether you are a member or not, will give you the opportunity to update your own information **including your email address**. If you are an ASSBI member, it will also give you access to *Brain Impairment*. In addition, ASSBI members receive at least a 10% discount in the Store. If you want to change your email address login with your old email address or [email Matthew](mailto:email@assbi.com.au) to change it prior to you logging in. <https://www.assbi.com.au>

We would like to collect stats such as your discipline and where you come from to get a better idea of our community.

When your membership is due you will receive a couple of reminder emails and you can renew and pay online by Visa, MasterCard or PayPal if you have an account. You can also transfer your fees via the bank – if you do this, email [Margaret](mailto:Margaret@assbi.com.au) so she can put your payment through. NO INTERNATIONAL CHEQUES PLEASE.

If you have anything you wish to go onto the site or have any feedback please email me at admin@assbi.com.au.
Matthew, Webmaster's sidekick

NEWS



Housing for people with high and complex support needs

Since 2006, the [Summer Foundation](#) has been working to solve the issue of younger people with disabilities being forced to live in aged care because there is nowhere else for them to live.

The Summer Foundation's work includes research into outcomes for people with high and complex support needs – including people with neuro-degenerative conditions and acquired brain injuries – as well as building the capacity of the health and disability sectors to better support people in these cohorts.

Appropriate housing is central to achieving good outcomes for people with high and complex support needs, so in 2017 the Summer Foundation piloted the Housing Hub – www.housinghub.org.au – a website that advertises properties for people with disability.

From small beginnings, the Housing Hub is fast becoming *the* way for people with disability to find suitable housing. To date, almost 2,300 places to live have been listed on the Hub and around 147,000 people have visited the site. A recently-added feature is the ability for housing seekers to create a Housing Hub profile that details their environmental needs, as well as their preferences around location and property features. If a property is subsequently listed on the Hub that matches a person's profile, the Housing Hub will notify them directly!

The Summer Foundation's Housing Hub team also provides a service that supports people with high or complex disability support needs to access appropriate funding from the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and connect with suitable housing opportunities.

The Housing Hub team is able to offer support to you with advice, housing resources and connection to appropriate sector professionals at no cost.

For more information phone Melody Carbons on 0499 111 848 or email info@housinghub.org.au

NEW PUBLISHED ARTICLE

Clinical translation of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for anxiety and depression - Adapted for Brain Injury (CBT-ABI): How do we train competent clinicians?

Dana Wong, Adam McKay, Nikolaos Kazantzis & Jennie Ponsford
International Journal of Cognitive Therapy
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s41811-020-00079-2>

What the study is about

Depression and anxiety are common following acquired brain injury (ABI) and can be effectively treated using cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) that has been adapted to compensate for cognitive difficulties (CBT-ABI – as outlined in the [CBT-ABI manual](#) available from ASSBI Resources!) However, effective delivery of CBT-ABI requires a specialised skill set. Training clinicians to deliver CBT-ABI is therefore a crucial step in effective translation of this intervention into widespread clinical practice.

What we did

This study evaluated the outcome of didactic (instruction-based) and experiential (skill-based) training on competencies in delivering CBT-ABI. Participants were 39 registered psychologists who attended a day-long ASSBI workshop on using CBT-ABI to treat anxiety and depression after brain injury, which included knowledge-building,

observational learning (i.e., videos of CBT-ABI) and skill-based (e.g., role play) content. Fourteen participants completed three additional supervision sessions reviewing audio recordings of their use of CBT-ABI with clients they saw in their workplaces. Training outcomes were measured using surveys rating the usefulness of the various workshop components; a checklist of competencies in CBT-ABI on which participants rated themselves pre- and post-workshop and post-supervision; and the Cognitive Therapy Scale (CTS), used by supervisors and a blinded expert to evaluate supervisees' skills.

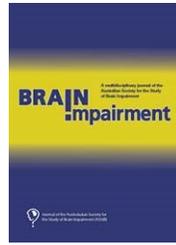
What we found

Participant-rated confidence and competence in delivering CBT-ABI significantly improved following workshop training. Examples of CBT modifications for ABI, case descriptions and videos of CBT-ABI in action were consistently rated as the most helpful elements of the workshop. Self-rated competencies did not show further change after supervision. CTS ratings of the supervisor, but not the blinded expert, showed significant improvement after short-term supervision. The authors surmised that a longer period of supervision may have been necessary for greater impact on competencies. Nevertheless, at 16-month follow up, self-rated competency gains were maintained; and encouragingly, therapist confidence and competence were no longer major barriers to using CBT-ABI in the workplace. These findings suggest targeted training that includes opportunities for observational and experiential learning is important for clinical translation of this evidence-based intervention.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to acknowledge and thank the psychologists who participated in the study and the individuals with brain impairment who consented to have their therapy sessions recorded for supervision. We would like to thank Dr Kerrie Haines, who provided supervision for some of the study participants, and Dr Lillian Nejad, who was our expert CTS rater. This research was supported by the Moving Ahead NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Brain Recovery.

BRAIN IMPAIRMENT



ASSBI's multidisciplinary Journal Volume 21 / Issue 2, September 2020 has now been published Online, with articles by Courtney Wright, Kelly Jones, Narissa Gracia,

Jai Carmichael, Maged Naseer and Dutia Connick. [Have a look at the titles and co-authors here...](#)

To login to the BI site of CUP, [login](#) to the ASSBI website and [click on this link](#) to get directed to the Brain Impairment page of the CUP website, if you require any help with this please email [Margaret](#). To read some of the articles from the author's perspective [click here](#)
Jennifer Fleming and Grahame Simpson
Co-Editors

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

If you would like to see someone give a workshop or webinar in your State or know of anyone coming to Australia in 2021 who would like to give a workshop or webinar for ASSBI members, please email [Margaret](#) and we will endeavour to organise a full/half day workshop or a webinar. If someone you suggest agrees to present for ASSBI you will receive a complementary registration, just like Danielle Sansonetti did when she suggested Barbara Wilson.

ASSBI 2020 Conference Bite Size! A Series of Webinars



The first five in the series, have gone live and if you missed these you can purchase them from the [ASSBI Online Store](#)

25th September – 1pm – 2pm a 60 min webinar entitled: *Improving services for Aboriginal Australians after brain injury: Current initiatives and findings to date* by **Beth Armstrong and Juli Coffin**

23rd October – 1pm – 2pm a 60 min webinar entitled: *What works for training communication partners of people with TBI? Lessons learnt from a clinical trial of the*

TBIconnect program by **Leanne Togher and Rachael Rietdijk**

27th November – 1pm – 2pm a 60 min webinar entitled: *'How to' evaluate mainstream and emerging technologies used for executive function support after brain injury* by **Libby Callaway and Grahame Simpson**

Summary: <http://www.cvent.com/d/znqvgv>

Costs: <http://www.cvent.com/d/znqvgv/2A>

Info on webinars:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/znqvgv/6X>

REGISTER:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/znqvgv/4W>



4th September – 5pm – 6pm AEST, a 60-minute webinar entitled: *Research for clinicians: Making clinical work your research* by **Barbara Wilson**

Summary:

<https://www.cvent.com/d/snqhbw>

Costs:

<https://www.cvent.com/d/snqhbw/2A>

Info on webinars:

<https://www.cvent.com/d/snqhbw/6X>

REGISTER:

<https://www.cvent.com/d/snqhbw/4W>

ASSBI CONFERENCES

[Go to the ASSBI website to keep up to date](#)

ASSBI's 44th Conference



#headstogether2021

The 44th Conference will be held in conjunction with INS and CCN and will be known as the 6th

Pacific Rim Conference. It will be run in Melbourne on 1st – 3rd July with workshops on 30th June 2021.

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE A HYBRID CONFERENCE and the call for abstracts

opens shortly so start putting your abstract together.

The theme of the conference is ***Putting our heads together to change lives***

Co-Convenors for the conference are:
ASSBI Representative – Dana Wong
INS Representative – Travis Wearne
CCN Representative – Kerry Pike
Steering Committee: Vicki Anderson, Jacinta Douglas and Simon Crowe.

KEYNOTE INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS



Anne Gordon is the chief therapist at Evelina London Children's Healthcare, part of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in central London. Dr

Gordon holds strategic leadership responsibility for paediatric dietetics, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, psychology and speech and language therapy services across Evelina London hospital and community-based services. Evelina London has a geographical reach across the south of London and SE England, covering a population of over 4 million children and young people.

Anne also works clinically as a consultant [occupational therapist](#) in paediatric neuroscience at Evelina London Children's Hospital. Her clinical and research interests are in paediatric neurodisability, particularly acquired brain injury and [stroke](#). She has a PhD in paediatric neuroscience, is an honorary senior lecturer at King's College London, and has ongoing research collaborations with colleagues internationally. Anne runs the Evelina REACH rehabilitation service, the [child stroke and acquired brain injury recovery clinic](#), and the ECMO outcome outpatient service.

Anne is a technical advisor to the World Health Organisation – Public Health England Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Early Intervention. She is also an ILM Level 7 qualified executive coach and mentor. Anne completed a secondment with NHS England, leading a national project scoping children's rehabilitation services and was chair of the rehabilitation and long-term outcomes working group for the national Childhood Stroke Guidelines (Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health). Anne will be presenting a 3-hour

workshop on Wednesday and a 1-hour Keynote Address.



Neil H Pliskin

is a board certified clinical neuro-psychologist and Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Neurology in the

University of Illinois College of Medicine. Professor Pliskin serves as Director of Neuropsychology services at UI Health, and has had 30+ years of experience working as a clinical neuropsychologist and directing clinical neuropsychology training programs. He has served as the Director of Continuing Education for the *International Neuropsychological Society* and was a Delegate at *The Houston Conference on Specialty Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology*. He has volunteered his time to *APA Division 40* (Education and Practice Advisory Committees, Federal Advocacy Coordinator), *National Academy of Neuropsychology* (Policy and Planning Committee) and *American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology* (Foundation Board). Neil has strong scientific interests in the neuropsychological sequelae of medical illness (MS, dementia, renal disease) and brain trauma (particularly electrical shock injuries). Neil is a Fellow of NAN and was recipient of NAN's Distinguished Service Award in 2008. He is a Fellow of the APA's Division of Clinical Neuropsychology and was awarded a Presidential Citation by the American Psychological Association in 2010 for dedicated service to the profession "as an advocate, scientist, educator and practitioner of clinical neuropsychology". He served as President of APA Division 40 (Society for Clinical Neuropsychology) in 2015. Neil continues to work for the profession as an advisor representing the APA on the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Panel. Neil will be presenting a 3-hour workshop on Wednesday and a 1-hour Keynote Address.

Confirmed Presidential Addresses are from Professor Olivier Pigué (ASSBI), Professor Skye McDonald (INS) and Dr Amy Scholes (CCN)

PUT THESE DATES INTO YOUR DIARY

Call for abstracts

Opens: 15th October 2020

Closes: 7th February 2021

Early bird closes: 23rd May 2021

Consumer Event: Tuesday 29th June 2021

Conference Workshops:

Wednesday 30th June 2021

Conference:

Thursday 1st – Saturday 3rd July 2021

If you are already on any of MERS Events' distribution lists or the ASSBI list (run by Margaret Eagers) you need do nothing as you will be notified as usual. If you are not and want to be then drop an email to mers@exemail.com.au

ASSBI's 45th Conference

#assbi2022

The 45th Conference will be held in Perth on 5th – 7th May 2022. Dr Mathilde Chevignard, Prof Lynne Turner-Stokes and Prof Bronwyn Hemsley, Prof Beth Armstrong and Prof Juli Coffin are keynote speakers.

Past Workshops and Webinars are available for download

#assbiworkshops

[CLICK HERE](#) to see more and order.

Jessica Trevena-Peters, Jennie Ponsford, Adam McKay, Dana Wong and Alinka Fisher have all presented full day training workshops and Neera Kapoor and Caroline van Heugten 90 min webinars over the last 2 years. If you missed this Continuing Education the first time around and would like to access it now please go to the [ASSBI ONLINE STORE](#)

WORLD EVENTS

ASSBI EVENTS

[2020 Bitesize LIVE Webinars](#)

[FREE LIVE Webinar](#)

[FREE Pre-Recorded Webinars](#)

[2021 CONFERENCE](#)

WORLD EVENTS

ASSBI is happy to advertise your Workshop, Webinar, Conference on this page. If you want to advertise here email Margaret. The only cost is that you advertise our conference on your page – EASY!

Events being held in Australia and around the world streamed or live by INS, BIA, NR-SIG-WFNR and other organisations can be found by clicking on the underlined link <https://www.assbi.com.au/World-Events>



ASSBI RESOURCES

Our little shop is very busy. We now have a shopping cart which makes it super easy to buy our resources on-line for members and non-members alike. To get members price (10% discount) login to the ASSBI website first. Also if you want to purchase the pdf or the UK version tick that option please.

If you go to the resources page you will find a great range of evidence-based resources for assessing, managing and/or treating many different kinds of disorders arising from brain impairment. We have professionally produced manuals and kits that we can post to you (if in Australia) or, if you prefer, you can receive a PDF of the resource with any accompanying files if required. You can also find recordings of some of our most popular webinars. This year, to date we have sold over 100 items. Check it out!

Non-members have access to some free downloads too – [click here](#) to see the full list of manuals **and** free to downloads on offer

There are now some FREE webinars which showcase some of our kits [CLICK HERE](#)
Skye McDonald talks about Improving First Impressions as well as TASIT and TASIT-S
David Shum talks about Prospective Memory
Sue Sloan: Managing challenging behaviours in community settings
Roy Kessels: Assessment of visuospatial memory in clinical practice
Skye McDonald, Resources Manager

Opportunities for Involvement

There are a lot of colleagues out there wanting your help, have a look and see if you can help out
[CLICK HERE TO SEE ALL REQUESTS FOR HELP](#)

The Social Brain Toolkit: Looking for Participants

Researchers at The University of Sydney and University of Technology Sydney in partnership with Brain Injury Australia are developing a set of online tools to improve face-to-face and online interactions after brain injury.

We are now looking for volunteers for an upcoming study about a **short online course on communicating with people with brain injury**. We are looking for people to trial and give us feedback on this online course. Volunteers could be family members or friends of someone with a brain injury, new staff or student health professional, or members of the general public. Volunteers will complete the online course in their own time and **complete an interview over videoconferencing** (Zoom) to give their feedback on the course.

If you would like to receive further information about the study (either to participate yourself, or to share with your contacts), please contact **Rachael Rietdijk** on 0402 159 516 or rachael.rietdijk@sydney.edu.au

Recruiting for CREST Concussion Study

The Neurotrauma team at Curtin University and the Perron Institute, led by Professor Lindy Fitzgerald, are currently recruiting participants for an exciting new study on concussion- the CREST Concussion REcovery STudy. This study is the largest of its kind in Western Australia and involves a range of techniques that are at the forefront of concussion research.

The aim of the study is to identify factors which may predict individuals at increased risk of delayed recovery following concussion to better manage treatment and improve recovery.

Within the past 7 days have you sustained a concussion injury from any cause (e.g. falls, transport accidents, sports-related concussions), been diagnosed by a medical doctor and aged between 18-65 years?

For more information or to see if you are eligible, please email concussionstudy@curtin.edu.au or phone

0466 526 849.

Memory-SuSTAIN program

Referrals are now open for **stroke survivors experiencing memory difficulties anywhere in Australia** to participate in a **telehealth memory group** as part of the Memory-SuSTAIN study being run through La Trobe and Monash Universities. This includes:

- A FREE 6-week memory skills group run by a clinical neuropsychologist via Zoom
- After completing the memory group, participants will receive either:
 - Booster sessions with a clinical neuropsychologist using Zoom
 - SMS/email reminders of helpful memory strategies OR
 - No further treatment (i.e., usual practice)
- Participants will also complete a series of assessments over Zoom to measure outcomes.

If you have anyone you would like to refer, please contact Dr David Lawson (research officer) on d.lawson@latrobe.edu.au or principal investigator Dr Dana Wong on d.wong@latrobe.edu.au

Speech pathology for adults following traumatic brain injury (TBI)

Our research team is exploring the lived experiences of adults when receiving speech pathology services in community settings (e.g. community-rehabilitation services, day hospital, private practice). The study is open to adults following TBI and/or their significant others who received services in Australia or New Zealand and involves a one hour interview using video conferencing. All participants can go into a draw to win a \$50 Coles/Myer or Farmers voucher. For more information about the study go to <https://sites.google.com/griffithuni.edu.au/speechpathologystudy/home> or contact Crystal Kelly (crystal.kelly@griffith.edu.au). GU ref no: 2019/512

Light Therapy for ABI Study

We are currently seeking referrals for a randomised controlled trial evaluating the impact of in-home light therapy on post-brain injury fatigue, as well as daytime sleepiness, sleep quality and mood. The study entails 7 study visits over a 5-6 month period in the participant's home and exposure to a tailored light therapy program. Ceiling lights and lamps are installed by a certified electrician, using participant's pre-existing fixtures.

It is for adults aged 18+ who:

- Have had a TBI (mild, moderate or severe) OR
- Is 3+ months post-injury (participants may also be many years post-injury eg. 20-30 years).

- Lives within the greater Melbourne area (up to 2 hr drive).

The study has been developed at Monash University in conjunction with the Monash-Epworth Rehabilitation Research Centre (MERRC) by Professors Jennie Ponsford, Shantha Rajaratnam, Steven Lockley and myself. The project has been approved by the Epworth HealthCare Human Research Ethics Committee.

If you would like any further information or would like to refer a potential participant, please don't hesitate to contact me at

laura.connolly@monash.edu or 0419 372 468. [Download the flyer here](#)

Monash University is seeking the views and experience of health practitioners who have treated and supported individuals recovering from major trauma injury. Many people have long-term ongoing rehabilitation needs after they sustain major trauma injury. There are a number of rehabilitation services that may be needed. The purpose of this study is to understand the experiences of practitioners delivering services to people who have returned to the community following major trauma and require ongoing assistance.

How can you help?

If you are a practitioner who has helped at least one person to 'get back on track' after a major trauma injury, we'd like you to complete a 15-minute online survey about your experience. The survey is completed anonymously, and will ask you questions about:

- Stroke
 - Reports experiencing significant fatigue
- The types of services you provide to major trauma survivors
- Your confidence in providing these services
 - What training, education and/or support you have when treating major trauma survivors
 - Whether there are difficulties in providing access to your services, and
 - The methods you use to provide any of your services (e.g. telehealth). We are keen to hear from a wide range of health practitioners, including:
 - Allied Health Assistants
 - Counsellors
 - Exercise Physiologists
 - General Practitioners
 - Neurologists
 - Nurses
 - Occupational Therapists
 - Personal Care Attendants
 - Physiotherapists
 - Psychiatrists
 - Psychologists
 - Rehabilitation Consultant/Physicians
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Counsellors
 - Social Workers
 - Speech Therapists
 - *AND* any other practitioners who are assisting individuals with major trauma injury

How do you participate?

To go to the survey, follow the link: <http://tiny.cc/yc1jdz>

To complete the survey by telephone, call (03) 9902 0272 when ready, or email injury.ruralresearch@monash.edu to arrange a time for call-back.

The project has been approved by the Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC). Project ID number: 18016.

Looking to connect with people with a brain injury

I'm a senior lecturer at Otago University in Wellington, where we are looking to develop a programme of research and teaching in acquired brain injury and neuropsychology. I have a strong commitment to co-design/co-production and am keen to develop a stronger service user 'voice' in the brain injury/neuropsychology teaching and literature. To help with this, I'd be extremely interested in connecting with people with brain injuries who may have skills or passion in research, teaching or policy, who could help me develop this work. We are at a very early stage so don't (yet) have any funding for this, so I'm hoping that there are people out there who might be interested in helping me to build it from scratch.

If that sounds like you or someone you know, please get in touch! You can reach me at paul.skirrow@otago.ac.nz

