

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Contextualized treatment

Contextualized Treatment in Traumatic Brain Injury Inpatient Rehabilitation: Effects on Outcomes During the First Year after Discharge

Authors

Jennifer Bogner, PhD, FACRM^a

Marcel Dijkers, PhD, FACRM^b

Erinn M. Hade, PhD^a

Cynthia Beaulieu, PhD, ABPP^c

Erin Montgomery, MS, CCC-SLP^a

Clare Giuffrida, PhD^d

Misti Timpson, DPT, NCS^e

Juan Peng, MAS^a

Kamie Gilchrist, MS, CCC-SLP^f

Aubrey Lash, CTRS^g

Flora M. Hammond, MD, FACRM^h

Susan Horn, PhDⁱ

John Corrigan, PhD^a

Institutional affiliations:

^a The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, Ohio

^b Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, New York; Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan

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^cBrooks Rehabilitation Hospital, Jacksonville, FL

^dRush University Medical Center, Chicago, Ill

^eRocky Mountain University of Health Professions, Provo, UT

^fIntermountain Medical Center, Murray, UT

^gCleveland VA Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio

^hIndiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN

ⁱUniversity of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City, Utah

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Corresponding author: Jennifer Bogner, PhD, 480 Medical Center Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43210, bogner.1@osu.edu.

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Key words

Brain injuries, traumatic; Rehabilitation; Outcome assessment (health care); Physical therapy; Occupational therapy; Speech therapy; Recreation therapy; Propensity score

Abbreviations:

ASD	Absolute standardized difference
CSI	Comprehensive Severity Index
FIM	Functional Independence Measure
HTE	Heterogeneity of treatment
IOM	Institute of Medicine
IPW	Inverse probability weighting
OT	Occupational therapy
PART-O	Participation Assessment with Recombined Tools-Objective
PHQ-9	Patient Health Questionnaire-9
POC	Point of care
PSM	Propensity score methodology
PT	Physical therapy
RCT	Randomized controlled trial
SDC	Supplemental digital content
ST	Speech therapy
SWLS	Satisfaction with Life Scale

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TBI Traumatic brain injury

TBI-PBE Traumatic brain injury Practice Based Evidence study

TR therapeutic recreation

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1

2 **Contextualized Treatment in Traumatic Brain Injury Inpatient Rehabilitation: Effects on Outcomes**

3 **During the First Year after Discharge**

4 **Abstract**

5 *Objective:* To evaluate the effect of providing a greater percentage of therapy as contextualized treatment on
6 acute traumatic brain injury (TBI) rehabilitation outcomes.

7 *Design:* Propensity score methods are applied to the TBI-Practice-Based Evidence (TBI-PBE) database, a
8 database consisting of multi-site, prospective, longitudinal observational data.

9 *Setting:* Acute inpatient rehabilitation.

10 *Participants:* Patients enrolled in the TBI-PBE study (n=1843), aged 14 years or older, who sustained a severe,
11 moderate, or complicated mild TBI, receiving their first IRF admission in the US, and consented to follow-up 3
12 and 9 months post discharge from inpatient rehabilitation.

13 *Interventions:* Not applicable.

14 *Main Outcome Measures:* Participation Assessment with Recombined Tools-Objective- -17, FIMTM Motor and
15 Cognitive scores, Satisfaction with Life Scale and Patient Health Questionnaire-9.

16 *Results:* Increasing the percentage of contextualized treatment during inpatient TBI rehabilitation leads to better
17 outcomes, specifically in regard to community participation.

18 *Conclusions:* Increasing the proportion of treatment provided in the context of real-life activities appears to
19 have a beneficial impact on outcome. Although the effect sizes are small, the results are consistent with other
20 studies supporting functional-based interventions effecting better outcomes. Furthermore, any positive findings,
21 regardless of size or strength, are endorsed as important by consumers (survivors of TBI). While the findings do
22 not imply that decontextualized treatment should *not* be used, when the therapy goal can be addressed with
23 either approach, the findings suggest that better outcomes may result if the contextualized approach is used.

24

25

26

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ASD	Absolute standardized difference
CSI	Comprehensive Severity Index
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POC	Point of care
PSM	Propensity score methodology
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SWLS	Satisfaction with Life Scale
TBI	Traumatic brain injury
TBI-PBE	Traumatic brain injury Practice Based Evidence study
TR	therapeutic recreation

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) rehabilitation includes a number of interventions that vary in the extent to which they directly address functional or real-life activities or alternatively, target underlying impairments.

“Contextualized” is a term that has been used to describe interventions provided in the context of a real life activity, while “decontextualized” has been used to designate clinic-based activities targeting a specific cognitive or motor impairment, using treatment tasks that are not normally encountered in everyday life.¹

53 Contextualized treatment is 'holistic' in that the clinician's goal is to improve a real life functional activity and
54 all of its component skills in their entirety, while decontextualized treatment systematically builds and
55 strengthens a particular motor or cognitive function that is thought to underlie performance of real life activities.
56 Computer-delivered programs to train attention and memory or therapeutic exercises targeting a specific muscle
57 group are examples of decontextualized approaches. An example of a contextualized task is sitting on a stool in
58 a diner and ordering from a menu--a meaningful activity that incorporates multiple functions at once, including
59 attention, visual scanning, decision-making, social pragmatics, postural and upper extremity motor control,
60 sitting balance and verbal expression.

61
62 Decontextualized interventions have received more attention in the rehabilitation literature, in part due to the
63 ease of standardizing the intervention and documenting progress. However, minimal evidence for generalization
64 to real-world function is available.¹ Contextualized treatment has been promoted as a potentially more effective
65 approach because the tasks are more meaningful to the patient. More meaningful tasks can lead to greater
66 patient effort as well as better generalization of treatment effects.^{2,3,4,5} Research on contextualized treatment is
67 more difficult to conduct because it typically is more individualized, and therefore to date most evidence
68 supporting this approach is based on single-subject or small group designs^{4,6,7} and/or focused on persons in the
69 post-acute stage of recovery.⁸ Some have studied the implications of adding a structured feature to the
70 intervention (e.g. Goal Attainment Scaling, prompting) and/or training activities of daily living during
71 posttraumatic amnesia versus after post-traumatic amnesia cleared.^{9,10} One RCT compared interventions
72 resembling, in some respects, decontextualized and contextualized treatment as defined here.¹¹ Patients who
73 received decontextualized training showed greater short-term gains, though no significant differences were
74 noted in long-term outcomes. Additionally, the more impaired patients appeared to benefit most from the
75 decontextualized training. Findings from this RCT, as well as ongoing disagreements in the field regarding
76 which approach is more beneficial,^{12,13} and for whom, support the need for further study.

78 The purpose of the current study was to evaluate the hypothesis that inpatient rehabilitation outcomes are
79 improved when a greater percentage of the therapy time is devoted to contextualized treatment (hereafter
80 termed ContextTx). The primary outcome, chosen a priori, was community participation at 9 months. We also
81 explored whether persons with dissimilar levels of disability at admission to inpatient rehabilitation experienced
82 different effects from ContextTx.

84 **Methods**

85 Propensity score methods (PSM) applied to data from the TBI-Practice based Evidence (TBI-PBE)
86 observational dataset were used to draw causal inferences regarding the most effective rehabilitation approach.
87 The TBI-PBE dataset was built from 2008-11 using data gathered from medical records and Point-Of-Care
88 (POC) documentation of inpatient rehabilitation treatment received by 2130 patients with TBI.¹⁴ Outcomes
89 were measured at inpatient rehabilitation discharge, and at 3 months and 9 months after discharge. A relatively
90 unique aspect of this research was the use of input from stakeholders (persons with TBI, family members,
91 clinicians) to guide the study from the formation of the research question through interpretation of the findings
92 and dissemination. They were integral to the treatment classification process. The data collection for this study
93 was approved through each site's institutional review board.

94
95 *Participants.* Consenting patients age 14 or older were included in TBI-PBE study if they had recently
96 experienced a TBI (severe, moderate, or complicated mild) for which they were receiving their first admission
97 for inpatient rehabilitation. Additional criteria for inclusion in the current analysis required that participants a)
98 be enrolled at one of the the US sites; b) consented to follow-up; and c) had treatment data. The final sample for
99 analysis included 1843 participants (see Figure 1). For the evaluation of heterogeneity of treatment effects, the
100 sample was divided into two groups: Severe Group (at admission, FIM Motor < 28.75 and FIM Cognitive score
101 ≤ 15 , n=820) and Less Severe Group (remainder of sample, n=1023).

103 *Intervention.* Treatment was considered to be ContextTx if it involved a real-life activity that an individual
104 would likely perform at home or in the community. Treatment was designated as DeContextTx if it was a
105 clinic-based activity that was not directly associated with a real life activity. (Some treatment provided by
106 speech therapy was determined to be quasi-contextualized, the effects of which are being evaluated separately
107 because it was not multidisciplinary). When the TBI-PBE Database was being compiled, data on rehabilitation
108 treatment were collected by means of POC forms completed by occupational, physical and speech therapists
109 (OT, PT, and ST) after each rehabilitation session. (see Figure S1 for an example of a POC form, more details
110 about the original data collection can be found at ¹⁴). For the purposes of the current analysis of this database,
111 research team members representing the different rehabilitation disciplines reviewed the spreadsheets showing
112 the different therapy combinations, and classified the therapeutic activities conducted during the treatment
113 sessions according to whether they met the definitions for ContextTx or DeContextTx, or did not meet the
114 criteria for either (see Figures S2 and S3 for graphical example). In a few instances, where the interpretation of
115 the POC syllabus text with respect to this dichotomy was unclear, therapists outside of the research team were
116 contacted to answer questions as to how they would classify the activity or intervention. Persons with TBI and
117 family members also assisted by providing their perspective on the extent to which an activity reflected 'real-
118 life'. The POC's minutes of time information was used to calculate the percent of ContextTx minutes provided
119 in OT, PT, and ST relative to the total number of minutes of ContextTx and DeContextTx that they provided
120 (quasi-contextualized minutes and time in non-treatment activities, e.g. assessment, were not included in the
121 calculation).

123 *Outcomes.* The primary outcome measure was community participation, as measured by the Participation
124 Assessment with Recombined Tools-Objective (PART-O-17) at 9 months post-discharge, with participation at
125 3 months being a secondary outcome. The PART-O-17 measures participation in the community with 17 items
126 in three domains: Productivity, Being Out and About, and Social Relations.^{15, 16} A PART-O Total score
127 represents the average of the 3 domain scores, and ranges from 0 to 5. An alternative scoring method developed

128 through Rasch analysis provided an overall participation score that is unidimensional and more suitable for
129 advanced statistical analyses (PART-O Total- Rasch).¹⁷ The range for the PART-O Total-Rasch score is 0-100.

130
131 Secondary outcomes included functional independence as measured by Rasch adjusted FIM^{TM 18, 19, 20}
132 Cognitive and Motor scores at discharge, 3 and 9 months post-discharge; life satisfaction and depression at 3
133 and 9 months post-discharge as measured by the Satisfaction with Life Scale²¹ (SWLS) and the Patient Health
134 Questionnaire-9²², (PHQ-9) respectively. The PHQ-9 was analyzed as a dichotomous variable: probable major
135 depression vs. no major depression.²³ The SWLS and PHQ-9 were not administered when the subject with TBI
136 was not able to complete the follow-up interview; outcomes for FIM and PART-O were based on a proxy report
137 in these cases .

138
139 *Potential confounders.* Data on premorbid medical and psychosocial history, injury characteristics, and
140 functioning at admission to rehabilitation were abstracted from medical records. In order to ensure that the
141 characteristics considered as potential confounders (of the contextualization-outcomes relationships) were not
142 impacted by the rehabilitation treatment, only those that could be measured at rehabilitation admission (first 3
143 days) or earlier were included. The *Comprehensive Severity Index (CSI®)*^{24,25} was included in the severity
144 adjustment measures. CSI defines severity as the physiologic and psychosocial complexity present due to the
145 extent and interactions of a patient's disease(s). The CSI-Brain Injury captured severity of brain-related
146 conditions while the CSI-Non-Brain Injury includes severity of all other medical conditions.¹⁴

147
148 *Analytic methods.* Data were analyzed using SAS v9.3 and Stata version 14.0. Inverse probability weighting
149 (IPW) using a generalized propensity score (GPS) was used to control confounding and to balance participant
150 characteristics across the range of ContextTx. A quantile binning approach was used to estimate the GPS and
151 subsequently to construct the IPW for adjustment. Continuous exposure of the proportion of ContextTx was
152 divided into 10 quantile bins.²⁶ A cumulative logistic model estimated the predicted probability of being in
153 each bin, and inverse probability weights were constructed.²⁶ Balance of measured patient characteristics across

154 the 10 quantile bins was assessed using the absolute standardized difference (ASD) between all possible pairs of
155 groups, prior to and after weighting by the stabilized IPW. If, after IPW, the ASD for a potential confounder
156 exceeded a conservative criterion of 0.10, the potential confounder was included in the outcome analysis
157 model.²⁷

158
159 The hypothesis that increasing the proportion of ContextTx results in better outcomes was evaluated through
160 marginal regression models with robust sandwich standard error estimates, weighted by the stabilized IPW. To
161 assess impact of attrition, multiple imputation was used to determine if findings were substantially different in
162 the full sample. Heterogeneity of treatment effects in Severe and Less Severe subgroups was evaluated by
163 conducting propensity score and outcome analyses separately for these groups and comparing effect estimates
164 and their confidence intervals. Throughout, statistical significance was considered to be those tests with $p < .05$.
165 Additional details regarding statistical methods are provided in Document S1.

166 167 **Results**

168
169 *Full cohort.* Demographic and injury characteristics are summarized in Table 1. The full list of confounders
170 included in the propensity score model are in the Supplemental Table S1. For the full sample, prior to
171 weighting, there was substantial imbalance of the covariates: the ASD between each of the quantile pairs ranged
172 from 0.06 to 0.35, with an average ASD 0.14 and 63% (47/75) of covariates having a ASD that exceeded the
173 criterion of 0.10. After IPW, the standardized differences for the full sample ranged from 0.02 to 0.20,
174 averaging 0.08, indicating excellent balance that represents much improvement over the unweighted sample.
175 The mean ASD was >0.10 for 14 covariates (or their levels); these covariates were included in the outcome
176 analysis.

177
178 Similar findings were obtained when regression models were tested with and without adjustment for those
179 covariates not balanced by the IPW. Table 2 summarizes the adjusted models for the full cohort (see

Supplemental Table S2 for unadjusted models). As shown for the full cohort, increasing the proportion of ContextTx resulted in small positive improvements on PART-O Total scores at 3 months and PART-O Total-Rasch scores at 3 and 9 months. For example, when the percentage of ContextTx increased by 1 percentage point, the PART-O Total (Rasch) score at 9 months increased by .057 (adjusted but not imputed model), Table 2 also shows the effects on the secondary outcomes. The findings did not change substantially following multiple imputation for missing outcome data; however, FIM Motor at 3 months was no longer significant.

Stratification by severity of initial disability. Since stratification resulted in smaller groups, GPS models for severity subgroups were modeled with 5 quantile bins, instead of 10 to avoid sparse groups in these smaller subsets. For the Severe subgroup, prior to weighting, the ASD between each of the quantile pairs ranged from 0.02 to 0.44, with an average ASD of 0.15 and 72% $>.10$ (46/64), indicating very poor balance. ASD after weighting ranged from 0.02 to 0.29, averaging 0.09, indicating substantially improved balance. The 17 covariates with average ASD >0.10 were included in the outcome models. Increasing the percentage of ContextTx resulted in higher PART-O Total Rasch scores at 3 and 9 months, higher PART-O Total scores at 3 months, higher PART-O Productivity at 3 months, higher FIM Cognitive scores at discharge, and higher FIM Motor scores at discharge and 3 months post-discharge.

Prior to weighting, the Less Severe group showed ASD ranging from 0.02 to 0.32, averaging 0.13, with 62% (40/64) $>.10$. After weighting, ASD for the Less Severe Group ranged from <0.01 to 0.16, averaging ASD 0.06, indicating very good balance. The 7 covariates with $d>0.10$ were included in the outcome models. Higher scores were obtained on the PART-O Total score at 3 and 9 months, the PART-O Rasch Total score at 9 months, PART-O Out and About at 9 months, PART-O Productivity at 9 months, and PART-O Social at 3 months.

The degree of overlap in the confidence intervals of the average differences in the outcomes was examined to evaluate heterogeneity of treatment effects. Given a lack of overlap on the confidence intervals for FIM Motor

at discharge, we can conclude that the impact of increasing the proportion of ContextTx was stronger for the Severe subset of participants relative to the Less Severe subset. The confidence intervals overlapped for the other outcomes, and general directionality of effects were consistent.

Discussion

The results support the hypothesis that increasing the percentage of ContextTx during inpatient TBI rehabilitation leads to better outcomes, specifically in regard to community participation. While positive effects were observed for participation in general, being out and about in the community was the domain of participation most impacted. Increased ContextTx time benefited persons admitted with both severe and less severe disability, however those with more severe disability experienced greater positive effects on self-care and mobility (FIMTM Motor).

Estimated effect sizes were small. The average differences represent the estimated change in an outcome measure score expected for each percentage point increase in ContextTx. For example, increasing ContextTx from 1% to 2% of therapy time would increase the PART-O Rasch Total score at 3 months by .08, which is too small to be meaningful. However, if the percentage of ContextTx were increased by 25%, there would be a 2 point increase ($25 * .08$) in the PART-O Rasch Total score. While still small, a 2-point increase could involve substantive changes community activities (e.g., greater number of hours spent working or homemaking, more days out of the house, and/or more time socializing with friends). When considering the PART-O Out and About score alone, increasing ContextTx by 25% increases the frequency of one recreational activity. Anecdotally, when consumers participating on the research team were provided with this anchor to help visualize the effect, they indicated that any improvement, no matter how small, would be meaningful.

The results are consistent with a previous multicenter observational study that used similar data collection and classification methods, applied to the treatment of persons receiving inpatient rehabilitation for stroke.²⁸

Increased intensity of function-based therapy (similar to ContextTx) was associated with greater gains in

232 mobility and self-care, while the intensity of impairment-based therapy was not associated with these outcomes.
233 However, findings from the current study are substantially different from the one previous RCT that compared
234 rehabilitation approaches that resemble the contextualized and decontextualized treatment used in the current
235 study. Vanderploeg et al.¹¹ compared a cognitive-didactic treatment (similar to decontextualized treatment) to
236 functional-experiential treatment (similar to ContextTx), and did not find an effect on the primary outcomes of
237 return to work and ability to live independently at one year post-treatment. However, cognitive-didactic
238 treatment resulted in higher FIM Cognitive scores at the conclusion of treatment. The discrepant findings
239 between the current study and Vanderploeg's may be at least partially due to differences in study design as well
240 as participants (the Vanderploeg study had a smaller sample and much stricter inclusion criteria than the current
241 research; they included exclusively service members who were further post-injury—an average 50 days
242 compared to 27). Differences in the treatments were also notable; both groups in the Vanderploeg study had
243 ongoing standard occupational and physical therapy that could have included decontextualized and
244 contextualized activities, as well as the additional intervention (cognitive-didactic vs. functional-experiential
245 treatment) to which they were assigned.

246
247 *Limitations.* The current study used propensity score methodology (PSM) to support causal inference in lieu of a
248 RCT. The use of PSM can only mimic randomization; it is always possible that an important confounder was
249 not identified, measured and controlled. Supporting our conclusions, using PSM we were able to successfully
250 achieve excellent balance on measured confounders with a very conservative criterion ($ASD < .10$) on most of
251 the potential confounders; in addition, variables requiring additional control were included in the outcome
252 analysis. Finally, while attrition from the usable cohort can affect generalizability, the rate of attrition in the
253 current study was minimal and no substantial differences were observed between analyses using imputations
254 versus complete data, indicating that attrition had minimal impact.

255
256 An additional limitation surrounds the slightly different results obtained for the PART-O Total score depending
257 on whether the Rasch scoring or original scoring algorithm was used. When the original scoring algorithm was

258 used with the full cohort, findings were only significant at 3 months post-discharge whereas the Rasch version
259 yielded significant findings at both 3 and 9 months. While findings were directionally consistent between the
260 measures, the scoring method thought to be more appropriate for parametric analyses (Rasch) yielded findings
261 that more consistently supported the hypothesis.

262
263 It should be noted that the effects of increased contextualization of therapy as reported here likely are
264 underestimated. The POC form was not designed by the TBI-PBE clinicians with ContextTx in mind; instead
265 they attempted to create a practical tool for routine use that allowed them to record all their important
266 therapeutic activities. Retroactively sorting of TBI-PBE POC activities into “contextualized” and
267 “decontextualized” groups is a poor method of operationalizing contextualization of therapy, but the only one
268 available with secondary analysis of existing data. It also should be noted that contextuality is not “one-size-fits
269 all”. Activities that can be considered contextualized may differ from one patient to the next. Some patients may
270 routinely complete puzzles at home, while other patients would never do so outside of the hospital. For the
271 former, puzzle completion would be contextualized, while it would be decontextualized for the latter. In the
272 current study, it was not possible to identify patient-level variation in determining contextualized activities. If
273 we were to design a prospective study, contextualization would be defined, and the therapists completing POC
274 forms would make a designation for each activity in the treatment session specific to the patient treated.
275 Presumably, better measurement of our independent variable would result in greater effect sizes, suggesting
276 more strongly the benefits of delivering as much treatment as possible in a contextualized format.

277
278 *Clinical implications.* Increasing the proportion of treatment devoted to contextualized activities appears to have
279 a beneficial impact on outcome. When more rehabilitation time is devoted to contextualized treatment, patients
280 are able to achieve greater community participation during the year following discharge. The findings do not
281 imply that decontextualized treatment should *not* be used; however, when therapeutic goals can be addressed
282 with either approach, the current findings suggest that better outcomes may result if the contextualized approach
283 is used.

284
285 Increasing the amount of contextualized treatment provided could be impeded by higher administrative
286 demands relative to decontextualized treatment. Decontextualized treatment is easier to administer and monitor
287 for efficacy than contextualized treatment. Pre-established computer programs and workbooks minimize the
288 need for treatment preparation, and efficacy can often be documented in a single summary number. However,
289 the higher administrative demands of contextualized treatment can be reduced with some modifications to the
290 current rehabilitation environment. For example, smart phrases built into electronic medical record templates
291 could be used to summarize contextualized activities and progress on goals in order to minimize documentation
292 time. Time spent in treatment planning can be reduced by assembling kits of materials that can be used across
293 patients for similar real-life activities. Family members can help therapists identify activities done in the home
294 and bring in materials that would actually be used in the home to perform the activity.

295 296 **Conclusions**

297
298 Inpatient rehabilitation facilities are under increasing pressure to demonstrate the achievement of functional
299 goals to warrant the cost of care. It is therefore critical to identify which therapy approaches can contribute to
300 better outcomes. This study supports selecting rehabilitation treatments that have a meaningful context,
301 including using these treatments with patients with more severe levels of disability. Implementing treatment
302 plans with contextualized therapies is challenging. Incorporating more of such activities in the inpatient
303 treatment day will require collaboration between deliverers of care and operators of rehabilitation facilities for
304 optimal outcome.

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375 **List of Figures**

376 Figure 1 Participant Flow Diagram.

377 Supplemental Digital Content

378 Figure S1 for an example of a POC form

379 Figure S2 Examples of Contextualized Treatment

380 Figure S3 Examples of Decontextualized Treatment

Table 1. Demographic and injury characteristics, minimum and maximum across quantiles, ASD before and after weighting

COVARIATES	Minimum before IPW	Maximum before IPW	ASD before IPW	ASD after IPW
DEMOGRAPHICS				
Age at admission mean(SD)	38.73 (19.5)	48.86 (21.8)	0.21	0.11
Sex: Male %	67%	78%	0.09	0.09
Race/Ethnicity %				
White	72%	80%	0.09	0.05
White Hispanic	3%	10%	0.10	0.06
Black	11%	22%	0.10	0.05
Asian, Other or Unknown	1%	5%	0.08	0.02
High School or Greater Education %	67%	76%	0.06	0.07
Insurance providers %				
Private insurance, MCO, HMO	33%	57%	0.21	0.09
Medicare	15%	31%	0.15	0.08
Medicaid	7%	25%	0.18	0.08
Self, Other, None	16%	25%	0.08	0.07
PREMORBID COMORBIDITIES				
Preinjury Alcohol Misuse %	27%	46%	0.16	0.05
Preinjury Other Drug Use %	17%	28%	0.10	0.06
INJURY AND STATUS AT ADMISSION TO REHABILITATION				
Cause of Injury %				
Fall	21%	42%	0.17	0.11
Sports and other causes	3%	9%	0.09	0.05
Moving Vehicle Crash	41%	69%	0.21	0.07
Violence	4%	10%	0.09	0.09
Shorter session site%	53%	82%	0.30	0.09
Days to Rehabilitation Admission mean (SD)	22.36 (24.35)	33.38 (39.2)	0.15	0.12
FIM(Rasch) Motor-Admission mean (SD)	25.62 (17.96)	34.96 (18.11)	0.23	0.09
FIM(Rasch) Cognitive- Admission mean(SD)	33.1 (16.73)	40.09 (15.36)	0.15	0.06
CSI Brain Injury Factors mean (SD)	41.32 (21.69)	52.09 (20.89)	0.18	0.10
CSI Non-Brain Injury Factors mean (SD)	12.45 (11.38)	21.86 (15.79)	0.29	0.09
PTA Cleared Before Admission %	25%	43%	0.12	0.05
Glasgow Coma Scale %				
Intubated/Missing	29%	55%	0.17	0.05
Mild (13-15)	7%	18%	0.11	0.08
Moderate-Severe 3-12	28%	54%	0.21	0.08

1 **Table 2. Adjusted[^] Estimates of Average Differences in Outcomes for Increasing the Proportion of ContextTx, Full Cohort, Severe and**
 2 **Less Severe Subgroups**

Outcome	Full Cohort				Severe Subgroup				Less Severe Subgroup			
	N	Difference	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	N	Difference	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	N	Difference	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI
PART-O Total (Rasch) 3 mos	1443	† 0.079	0.026	0.132	665	† 0.106	0.032	0.179	781	0.042	-0.005	0.09
PART-O Total (Rasch) 9 mos	1389	*0.057	0.016	0.099	641	† 0.107	0.038	0.176	747	*0.046	0.003	0.089
PART-O Total 3 mos	1605	*0.003	0.001	0.006	739	*0.005	0.001	0.008	868	*0.004	0	0.007
PART-O Total 9 mos	1525	0.002	-0.001	0.005	702	0.002	-0.002	0.007	823	*0.005	0.001	0.008
PART-O Out/About 3 mos	1607	† 0.005	0.002	0.009	739	0.006	0	0.011	870	0.003	-0.002	0.007
PART-O Out /About 9 mos	1529	*0.005	0.001	0.009	704	0.005	0	0.011	825	*0.005	0.001	0.009
PART-O Productivity 3 mos	1612	0.002	-0.001	0.006	740	*0.005	0.001	0.009	874	0.004	-0.001	0.008
PART-O Productivity 9 mos	1532	-0.001	-0.004	0.003	706	0	-0.006	0.007	826	*0.006	0	0.011
PART-O Social 3 mos	1608	0.003	-0.001	0.006	740	0.003	-0.003	0.008	870	*0.005	0.001	0.01
PART-O Social 9 mos	1526	0.002	-0.002	0.006	703	0.001	-0.005	0.006	823	0.004	-0.001	0.008
FIM Cog (Rasch) DC	1831	0.027	-0.039	0.093	819	*0.100	0.007	0.193	1014	0.032	-0.039	0.104
FIM Cog (Rasch) 3 mos	1529	0.024	-0.059	0.107	695	0.004	-0.124	0.132	835	0.055	-0.034	0.144
FIM Cog (Rasch) 9 mos	1433	-0.026	-0.112	0.06	657	-0.051	-0.169	0.067	776	0.032	-0.063	0.128
FIM Motor (Rasch) DC	1831	0.015	-0.051	0.081	819	*0.130	0.025	0.236	1014	-0.03	-0.085	0.025
FIM Motor (Rasch) 3 mos	1515	*0.097	0.006	0.189	687	*0.168	0.01	0.327	829	0.052	-0.03	0.134
FIM Motor (Rasch) 9 mos	1414	0.022	-0.062	0.105	649	0.113	-0.057	0.284	765	0.028	-0.058	0.114

SWLS 3 mos	1203	0.009	-0.031	0.05	474	-0.007	-0.088	0.073	730	-0.011	-0.058	0.035
SWLS 9 mos	1204	1.009	0.969	1.05	505	0.055	-0.029	0.14	731	0.989	0.942	1.035
PHQ-9 3 mos †	949	1.009	0.996	1.023	366	0.995	0.97	1.02	585	1.011	0.997	1.025
PHQ-9 9 mos †	1218	1.005	0.992	1.019	502	1.007	0.979	1.036	716	1.002	0.988	1.016

3 * p<.05, † p<.01. † Odds ratios. ^Adjusted for the following covariates. Full cohort: Covariates include previous number of brain injuries,
4 employment category, brain injury category (closed contusion hemorrhage, closed no contusion hemorrhage, open contusion hemorrhage), injury
5 cause category, comorbid pain condition, lived with category, age at admission, CSI Brain Injury, agitation first 3 days, days from injury to
6 rehabilitation admission; Severe subgroup: age at admission, CSI Brain Injury, high school education or greater, lived with category, post-
7 traumatic amnesia cleared prior to admission, injury cause (excluded from PHQ9 analysis), brain injury category (closed contusion hemorrhage,
8 closed no contusion hemorrhage, open contusion hemorrhage) (excluded from PHQ9 analysis), epidural hemorrhage (excluded from PHQ9
9 analysis), intraventricular hemorrhage, premorbid impaired activities of daily living (excluded from PHQ9 analysis), midline shift category,
10 (excluded from PHQ9 analysis), previous residence; Less severe subgroup: previous brain injury, lived with category, brain injury category
11 (closed contusion hemorrhage, closed no contusion hemorrhage, open contusion hemorrhage), acute craniectomy, premorbid impaired activities
12 of daily living.

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