

3rd Annual Chicago Neurotrauma Symposium

Penetrating Brain Injury

EXPLORING PRACTICE CHANGES,
PERSISTENT GAPS, AND ADVANCING
RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

THE DAVID RUBENSTEIN FORUM
1201 E 60th ST, CHICAGO, IL 60637

SEPTEMBER 26 & 27 2025



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will bring together internationally recognized experts, frontline clinicians, and leading researchers to address the evolving challenges and opportunities in the management of penetrating brain injury (PBI) focusing on the translation of new evidence and interdisciplinary insights into practice.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After this activity, participants will be able to:

1. **Recall** the most recent guidelines for the management of PBI
2. **Identify** key knowledge gaps in FIBI and avenues for further research
3. **Outline** a multidisciplinary approach to acute resuscitation and management of FIBI, integrating insights from diverse medical specialties
4. **Describe** how collaboration can be used to improve research into PBI and FIBI treatment
5. **Appraise** acute neurosurgical and neurocritical care interventions to optimize outcomes for FIBI patients, incorporating evidence-based practices
6. **Evaluate** various research methodologies for investigating FIBI, addressing the unique challenges of this injury type

Physician Credit: The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 9 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Physical Therapist and Occupational Therapist Credit: The University of Chicago Medical Center is a licensed continuing education provider with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for Physical Therapy, license # 216-000030. All participants will be provided with a certificate of attendance. This course is approved for 9 continuing education hours for licensed therapists (PT, PTA, OT, or COTA) in Illinois. The University of Chicago Medical Center has not applied to any other state for therapist CE credit. Participants will need to do this individually through their jurisdiction outside of Illinois.

Other Participant Credit: Other participants will receive a Certificate of Participation. For information on the applicability and acceptance of Certificates of Participation for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™] from organizations accredited by the ACCME, please consult your professional licensing board.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER:

<https://cme.uchicago.edu/NSPBI2025>

QUESTIONS? Contact Liam Thomas
neurotrauma@uchicagomedicine.org

EARLY BIRD PRICING AVAILABLE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 5th, 2025

Course Directors:

Susan Rowell, MD MBA
Ali Mansour, MD MS
Fernando Goldenberg, MD
Paramita Das, MD

Target Audience:

This activity is designed for a multidisciplinary cohort of clinicians, researchers, & funding agency representatives committed to filling the gaps in PBI Research and Management.

OPENING SESSION:

Susan Rowell, MD MBA

Professor of Surgery,
Trauma and Acute Care surgery
Director, Surgical Critical Care
Fellowship Program
Co-Director, Adult Surgical ICU
UChicago Medicine

Ali Mansour, MD MScBMI

Assistant Professor of Neurology &
Neurosurgical Surgery
Medical Director of Informatics for
Neurosciences and Critical Care
Director, Neurocritical Care
Fellowship Program
UChicago Medicine

Fernando Goldenberg, MD

Professor of Neurology and
Neurological Surgery
Neurocritical Care Section Chief
Medical Director, Neuroscience ICU
UChicago Medicine

Paramita Das, MD

Assistant Professor of
Neurological Surgery
Director, Surgical Neurotrauma
UChicago Medicine

SESSION 1: UPDATES IN PBI GUIDELINES

Randy Bell, MD FAANS

Professor of Neurosurgery
University of South Dakota, USUHS
Avera Medical Group
Neurosurgery, Sioux Falls, SD

Gregory Hawryluk, MD PhD FRCS

Medical Director, Brain
Trauma Foundation
Cleveland Clinic

Bradley Dengler, MD FAANS FACS

Director, Military Brain
Trauma Initiative
Director, Neurotrauma &
Neurocritical Care
Director, Neurosurgical Residency
Walter Reed National
Medical Center

PBI GUIDELINES: Q&A SESSION

Randy Bell, MD FAANS
Gregory Hawryluk, MD PhD FRCS
Bradley Dengler, MD FAANS FACS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Geoff Manley, MD PhD

Professor of Neurosurgery
Chair, Neurosurgery
San Francisco General Hospital
Univ. of California San Francisco

SESSION 2: BLAST AND WARTIME INJURIES

Geoffrey Ling, MD PhD

Founding Director, Biological
Technologies Office
Defense Advanced Research
Projects Agency
Professor of Neurology
Johns Hopkins University

Ibolja Cernak, MD PhD MEng MHS

Professor of Neuroscience
and Physiology
Alice L. Walton School of Medicine
Bentonville, AR

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Ibolja Cernak, MD PhD MEng MHS
Geoffrey Ling, MD PhD
JB Phillips, MD
Bradley Dengler, MD FAANS FACS

SESSION 3: ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY IN PBI

Elizabeth Carroll, MD

Assistant Professor of Neurology
UChicago Medicine

Laura Ngwenya, MD PhD

Assistant Professor of
Neurosurgery
Director, Neurotrauma
University of Cincinnati

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Elizabeth Carroll, MD
Laura Ngwenya, MD PhD

SESSION 4: ETHICAL ISSUES IN PBI

Tanya Zakrison, MD MPH

Professor of Surgery
Director, Critical Trauma Research
UChicago Medicine

Jamie Coleman, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery
Vice Chair of Wellness
University of Louisville

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Tanya Zakrison, MD MPH
Jamie Coleman, MD

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Bizhan Aarabi, MD FRCS

Professor of Neurosurgery
Director, Neurotrauma
University of Maryland

SESSION 5: PENETRATING SPINE INJURIES

Paul Arnold, MD

Professor of Neurosurgery
Loyola University Medical Center

Michael Fehlings, MD FRCS FACS

Professor of Neurosurgery
Vice Chair of Research,
Department of Surgery
University of Toronto

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Paul Arnold, MD
Michael Fehlings, MD FRCS FACS

SATURDAY, SEPT 27TH

SESSION 6: RESEARCH ADVANCEMENTS IN PBI

Shibani Pati, MD PhD

Professor, Lab Medicine & Surgery
Director, Center for Research
Transfusion & Cellular Therapy
Univ. of California San Francisco

Janet Bettger, ScD MS FAHA

Research Professor, PM&R
Vice Chair for Research
UNC Chapel Hill

Hasan Alam, MD

Loyal & Edith Davis Professor
& Chair, Department of Surgery
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Shibani Pati, MD PhD
Janet Bettger, ScD MS FAHA
Hasan Alam, MD
Stephen Wisniewski, PhD
JB Phillips, PhD MBA PMP
Susan Rowell, MD

JB Phillips, PhD MBA PMP

Neurotrauma Portfolio Manager
U.S. Department of Defense

Kevin Wang, PhD

Professor of Neurobiology
Vice Chair for Research
Morehouse School of Medicine

David Okonkwo, MD PhD

Professor of Neurosurgery
Director, Neurotrauma
Clinical Trials Center
Director, Scoliosis & Spinal
Deformity Program
EVP, UPMC Enterprises
Univ. of Pittsburgh Medical Center

PANEL DISCUSSION:

JB Phillips PhD, MBA PMP
Kevin Wang, PhD
David Okonkwo, MD PhD
Hasan Alam, MD

CLOSING SESSION & NEXT STEPS

SESSION 7: FUTURE TECHNOLOGIES

