

**(W05) COGNITIVE HOME EVALUATION: MISSING PIECE IN TREATMENT AND TRANSITION PROCESS**

Bonnie Schaudé, MA, CCC-SLP<sup>1,2</sup>; Dalise Robinson, MS, CCC/SLP<sup>1</sup>; Melinda Hodgson, OTR/L<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Shepherd Center (GA, USA); <sup>2</sup>MS Institute (GA, USA)

Research has identified the difficulty with the transition of skills from the clinical to the home setting in cognitively impaired patients. The concept of home treatment has an important place in the rehabilitation of these individuals. However, reimbursement for a team approach in the transition process in the home continues to be challenging. The notion of beginning with transition at the onset of outpatient treatment would afford the patient and family increased time to integrate and practice important techniques and modifications with the support of the rehabilitation team. Information related to the patient's home and functional routines is needed to assist rehabilitation professionals in developing treatment that is practical and functional for home re-entry at any stage.

The purpose of this study was to present a Home Evaluation prototype developed to include cognitive as well as physical parameters to be assessed for improved transition planning for patients with cognitive communication impairment. This was part of a pilot project focusing on several objectives, with specific focus on cognitive barriers affecting functional activities within the home, investigation of the effectiveness of current and potential strategies for improved function, and validation of levels of independence in functional tasks within the home environment. Competency measures were developed for clinical training in conducting the home evaluation. An outline of the components of the home evaluation, strategy assessment protocol, and problem action summary will be presented in two case studies of a traumatic brain injury and multiple sclerosis client with cognitive communication problems affecting activities of daily living functions.

*Disclosure: The researcher(s) have reported no relevant financial disclosures.*