

# Update on Neuroscience: How Therapy Changes the Brain



**Martha S. Burns, Ph.D., CCC-SLP**  
Friday -Saturday, February 8-9, 2019

## Location

[Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Office Park](#)

Classroom 5  
1680 Tullie Circle  
Atlanta, GA 30329

## Course description

This course will review current neuroscience research on neuroplasticity and the role of therapy in facilitating brain maturation, reorganization, and recovery. The focus will be on our current knowledge about the human brain as an experience-dependent organ and the environmental, genetic and cognitive/perceptual effects on brain development and recovery after injury. The course will review in practical terms how therapists facilitate and maximize maturation through synaptic and axonal proliferation, pruning, and consolidation. Specific PT, OT and SLP interventions for dyslexia, autism spectrum disorders, language impairment, sensory and motor disorders as well as brain injuries that have neuroscience-based evidence will be reviewed.

## Agenda

- Friday**
- 7:30 a.m. *Registration & Continental Breakfast*
- 8:00 a.m. Introduction – Overview of neuroplasticity research 2018-2019  
Review of the human connectome project  
Review of the physiology of brain organization – structural, chemical and temporal
- 10:00 a.m. *Break*
- 10:15 a.m. The human brain as an experience dependent organ: processes of maturation and reorganization after injury  
The three processes of Brain Maturation: Proliferation, Pruning and Consolidation  
The multi-factors that affect Brain Maturation: Genetics, Cognitive/Perceptual, Environmental, Brain Level
- 12:00 p.m. *Lunch (on your own)*
- 1:00 p.m. The mechanisms of brain injury  
Concussion and TBI  
Stroke  
Illness  
Aging versus dementia
- 2:45 p.m. *Break*
- 3:00 p.m. Overview of natural neuroplasticity processes associated with diaschisis and brain re-organization during acute stages of stroke recovery  
Natural processes of early reconnection after injury  
Natural processes of interhemispheric effects of stroke and transfer of function  
Limitations based on lesion size and type
- 4:00 p.m. Q&A
- 4:30 p.m. *Adjourn*

## Saturday

- 7:30 a.m. *Continental Breakfast*
- 8:00 a.m. How therapy upregulates neuromodulators that drive brain maturation and reorganization  
Dopamine  
Acetylcholine  
Noradrenaline  
Serotonin  
Others
- 8:45 a.m. Therapeutic factors essential to driving neuroplastic change in neurodevelopmental disorders & injury  
The importance of intensity and frequency in therapy  
The importance of motivation and reward in therapy  
Technological drivers that can supplement one-on-one treatment to drive neuroplastic change
- 10:00 a.m. *Break*
- 10:15 a.m. Overview of natural neuroplasticity processes associated with diaschisis and brain re-organization during Acute stages of stroke recovery  
Natural processes of early reconnection after injury  
Natural processes of interhemispheric effects of stroke and transfer of function  
Limitations based on lesion size and type  
Brain reorganization processes after acute recovery ends  
Local changes associated with intensive stimulation  
Intra-hemispheric transfer of function  
Interhemispheric transfer of function
- 12:00 p.m. *Lunch (on your own)*
- 1:00 p.m. Other therapeutic factors essential to driving neuroplastic change  
The importance of intensity and frequency in therapy  
The importance of motivation and reward in therapy  
Technological drivers that can supplement one-on-one treatment to drive neuroplastic change
- 2:30 p.m. *Break*
- 2:45 p.m. Neuroscientific evidence of effects of treatment for:  
Motor disorders  
Dyslexia  
Apraxia of Speech  
Autism Spectrum Disorders  
Other diagnoses
- 3:30 p.m. Q and A

## Registration

**Registration Price** (includes continental breakfast):

Regular Registration	\$355
Group Discount (2 or more attendees from the same facility)	\$305
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Staff	\$255

**Space is limited, register today at <https://events.ely.com/UpdateNeuroscience>**

Contact [michelle.moore@choa.org](mailto:michelle.moore@choa.org) for more information.

## Target audience

This course is intended for SLP's, PT's, OT's and Psychologists who work with pediatric and/or adult patients with neurodevelopmental disorders and brain injuries.

## Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the conference, the participant will be better able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge about experience-dependent, genetic and cognitive perceptual components of brain maturation
- Design treatment goals based on neuroscience principals known to drive positive neuroplastic change
- Utilize knowledge about diaschisis and other natural recovery processes to develop goals for patients who have suffered from brain injury.
- Develop short and long-term goals based on evidence-based practice in treatment of neurogenic developmental disabilities.
- Develop short and long-term goals based on evidence-based practice designed to maximize recovery outcomes in brain injured patients.

## Continuing Education

Direct contact hours have been applied for through the **Georgia Occupational Therapy Association (GOTA)** for **13 contact hours** for Occupational Therapists. These credits may apply toward licensure in other states.

Continuing Education Credits have been applied for through the **Physical Therapy Association of Georgia (PTAG)** for **13 contact hours** for Physical Therapists. These credits may apply toward licensure in other states.



Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. **See course information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area.** ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

This program is offered for **1.3 ASHA CEUs** (Intermediate level; Professional area)

## Speaker

**Dr. Martha S. Burns** currently serves as the Director of Neuroscience Education at Scientific Learning Corporation. She is also Adjunct Associate Professor at Northwestern University, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She has been a consultant at the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab (formerly, The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago) for 35 years and has provided yearly professional development instruction at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta for over 15 years. Dr. Burns is a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and has received honors from Northwestern University, Evanston Hospital Corporation, the American Speech Language Hearing Foundation and St. Xavier University. She has authored 3 books and over 100 book chapters and articles. Doody's Rating Service selected her book on the Right Hemisphere published through Aspen Press as one of the best health sciences books of 1997. In addition to that book, Dr. Burns is the author of a book on aphasia and the test *Burns Brief Inventory of Communication and Cognition* published by Pearson. Dr. Burns is a consultant to many school districts around the world. She presents 75-100 invited in-services, keynotes, webinars and continuing education courses world-wide each year on neuroscience applications to education and clinical practice.

## Disclosures

**Martha Burns, PhD--Financial:** Honorarium is received from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta for presenting this program;  
**Non-Financial:** none

## Accommodations

Courtyard Atlanta Executive Park/Emory

1236 Executive Park Drive NE

Atlanta, GA 30329

404-728-0708 (Call and ask for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta rate)

Click [here](#) for Children's reduced rate to book online

Doubletree Hotel Atlanta North Druid Hills

2061 North Druid Hills Road

Atlanta, GA 30329

Click [here](#) for website. (Click on Special Rate Codes and then enter 0009885641 under Corporate Account)

*All programs are intended to be accessible to all persons. If you have a disability and require assistance in order to fully participate in the conference activities, call the conference coordinator to discuss your specific needs.*

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