



To Whom This May Concern:

Not only is life a precious commodity, but also so precious is the quality of life. Some 8 million traumatic brain injuries (mTBI)/concussions occur in our country every year; 4 million in sport-related activities, and another 4 million in accidents, falls, assaults, and motor vehicle accidents. At this time in the technology-laden 21st century, these numbers should be decreasing, but they are not, and for reasons that are many and varied. Although deaths do occur, the most common outcome is impairment of some significance to the computer that controls every function of the human body. And often, these affect the injured, first incurred at young ages, for the remainder of their lives. Oftentimes, loss of life becomes preferred to living this kind of a tragedy over-and-over again; especially with limited possibilities for complete recovery.

In my travels (throughout the state of Connecticut and across the country), as a concussion educator, I certify thousands of coaches in concussion education every year (now part of most state laws), and invariably, many of these coaches (who are also parents) approach me, telling me stories of their son(s) and/or daughter(s) who have sustained significant concussions. Many of these stories are told with tears in their eyes, and the comment that "I never thought this would happen to my family." They tell me how their loved one has seen a number of doctors, and promised they would get better; they ask or even **BEG** me for help when they do not. **HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF THIS WERE YOU, TALKING ABOUT YOUR SON, DAUGHTER OR LOVED ONE** who has missed months of school, who is severely depressed, who at times does not even remember your name


Until 10 months ago, I conducted these training sessions knowing that I would be told these stories, and be asked for help. I would be able to give them names of good doctors who were well-versed in the field of traumatic brain injuries, but in the best case scenario, if the coin flip went well, might be able to relieve some of their symptoms. I also prayed that these treatments would be enough to give them back some quality of their past life, and to look forward to some kind of future, even if it was not the one they worked so hard for years to achieve, and which they had hoped would become a career. Then I met Dr. Victor Pedro. The information out there was that he had success treating and resolving concussions. **COMPLETE RESOLUTION !!!** In all of my travels, I had never heard of any physician attaining this level of success. So naturally, I approached my encounters with some level of skepticism. I had several telephone conversations as well as e-mail interactions with him. Everything that he stated in those various conversations made sense scientifically and medically. But as we as human beings are naturally cynical, I still remained cautious. There had to be a catch, or something that I was missing. After researching everything I could about what he was doing, I visited him in Cranston.

Dr. Pedro uses Cortical Integrative Therapy (developed by Dr. Pedro over a 20 year period), a highly individualized plan of non-invasive, external brain stimulation to treat the symptoms of TBI (no medications, no surgery, no electrical stimulation, etc.). His initial evaluations of potential new clients is extensive, and thorough using visual, auditory and vestibular assessments. His instructions are detailed, but relayed in language that is understandable; if not, he repeats it in another format addressing different learning styles. No question by the potential client, and/or their accompanying loved ones is considered unintelligent, and answered until they understand and are satisfied. After this two to three hour assessment is complete, he meets for another hour or two (after a break) informing the client that

from this assessment: (1) he believes that he cannot help them, or (2) if he feels that he can help them, how he will treat and reorganize their brain function (not treating symptoms as most do), and provide them with a realistic timeframe for healing. It then becomes their choice as to whether to work with him, and continue this process. Other clients being treated in the facility are ones whose symptoms have completely resolved, but return periodically for any needed adjustments to areas of the brain that may need a slight 'tweaking.' In my opinion, individuals who travel from across the country for follow-up care must have the utmost trust, faith and confidence in Dr. Pedro. His practice has not only been highly successful in the treatment and recovery from traumatic brain injury/concussion, but also in developmental, vestibular and movement disorders along with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD)/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), Dysautonomia, Speech pathologies and Fibromyalgia.

Those at greatest risk are our infants/toddlers, our teenagers, our parents and grandparents, and our active duty military who protect us, and who provide us with the freedoms afforded only a very few countries around the world. And should traumatic brain injury become a part of the lives of those we love, I can now teach these classes, courses, conferences, etc. knowing that there is a physician who has the skill and expertise to help them. I am excited about the Cranston/Providence area becoming a front-runner. I am not, and never have been a gambler, but as patients continue to travel to Rhode Island Integrated Medicine, I can easily foresee this part of New England becoming the concussion 'treatment and symptom resolution' center of the country and the world. My mission, along with continuing to educate about concussions, is to assist Dr. Pedro, in any way that I can; to someday see other such facilities across the country and to see physicians world-wide trained in CIT. Brain injury will unfortunately continue to occur, but with the expertise of Dr. Victor Pedro such injuries will have less of an opportunity to take away promising futures.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David K. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J".

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Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC)