

# RHODE ISLAND INTEGRATED MEDICINE

## **Introduction to Rhode Island Integrated Medicine and Cortical Integrative Therapy (CIT)**

Welcome to Rhode Island Integrated Medicine. We want to tell you about our breakthrough, research-based treatment program for diagnosing and treating brain-based disorders and injuries called Cortical Integrative Therapy (CIT). CIT is changing the paradigm of neuro-rehabilitation. It was developed by our founder, Dr. Victor M. Pedro, to radically improve the treatment of mild to moderate acquired brain injuries and brain-based disorders.

CIT is an innovative approach for detecting and stabilizing abnormal structural and functional brain lesions resulting from acquired brain injury and brain-based disorders. CIT uses objective measures of subtle functional changes across a wide range of domains—visual and other sensory systems, motor systems including pupillary responses, the autonomic and vestibular systems—to diagnose a brain injury or brain dysfunction.

CIT uses a proprietary algorithm-based approach to analyze these data to identify the laterality and longitudinal level of the lesion. Algorithms determine how to best stabilize the underlying systems, so the patient can benefit from treatment. The approach delivers a detailed treatment plan including the type, duration, and frequency of noninvasive treatment modalities to stabilize and strengthen neural function, build metabolic capacity in the damaged neurological tissue, and provide a window of probability for the patient to maximize optimal functionality.

In addition to acquired brain injuries, some of the brain-based disorders we commonly treat using CIT include aphasia, apraxia, ataxia, chronic pain, CRPS/RSD, dizziness/vertigo, dysautonomia, migraine headaches, and POTS Syndrome. While many brain-based disorders and acquired brain injuries are treated with medication or surgery, our treatment program is based solely on non-invasive external stimulation. Unlike many alternative therapies, CIT effectively treats the symptoms of the disorder or injury and seeks to resolve its underlying neurological cause.

CIT was approved by the State of Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services and Rhode Island Medicaid in 2012 as a new service for Medicaid patients for the treatment of traumatic brain injury and various brain-based disorders. In a retrospective review of patient charts, the safety of CIT was evaluated by Dr. Natan Noviski, M.D., formerly of the Department of Pediatrics, Mass General Hospital for Children and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA. The outcome was positive, and the study is still in process for publication. A three-year CIT Medicaid Pilot concluded in 2017, with the results deemed compelling (84% success rate) and expectations surpassed.

CIT has been used successfully by Dr. Pedro to treat more than 1,000 patients over the past two decades. Many patients were referred to us after other methods of medical treatment had failed. In nearly all cases, patients had experienced lingering symptoms and cognitive deficits, often for months or years, which interfered with activities of daily life including employment, school, and social interaction. Patients accepted for treatment show significant improvement in as few as four to six weeks. CIT often eliminates further treatment expense, as well as complications and side effects from pain and other medications.

Our work using CIT has been published in peer-review journals, including the *International Journal of Neuroscience* in 2005 for the successful treatment of Landau-Kleffner Syndrome, a rare seizure-based language disorder, and in abstract form by the *New England Hand Society* in 2008. Following successful surgical replantation of the patient's severed hand, Dr. Pedro retrained the brain and hand to work together, significantly increasing the functionality of the limb. Dr. Pedro's work with CIT in the treatment of pediatric brain injury and brain-based disorders was also published in abstract form in the *International Journal of Clinical Neurosciences and Mental Health* in 2016. Dr. Pedro has lectured nationally and internationally.

Please visit our informative website at [www.drvectorpedro.com](http://www.drvectorpedro.com) to learn much more about CIT and the conditions that we treat, to read about our independently verified case studies, and to see what our patients and the news media are saying about us. We look forward to meeting you to talk about how CIT could benefit you, your family members, or your patients.

Dr. Pedro is fluent in Portuguese and Spanish.

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