

Updated: March 15, 2007

# **Eastern Colorado Health Care System (Denver) Polytrauma Network Site – Additional Rehabilitation Programs**

Table of Contents:

[SPINAL CORD INJURY AND DISORDERS PROGRAM](#)

[BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM](#)

[AMPUTEE PROGRAM](#)

[ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM](#)

[COMPREHENSIVE INPATIENT REHABILITATION PROGRAM](#)

[INTERDISCIPLINARY PAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM](#)

[WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM](#)

[PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS](#)

## **SPINAL CORD INJURY AND DISORDERS PROGRAM**

The Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders program maximizes functional abilities, independence, and quality of life in patients. We use a team of rehabilitation professionals from different disciplines to promote health, adjustment, and adaptation. We provide life-long comprehensive rehabilitation and health care and are committed to excellence, trust, respect, and compassion. We support other VA facilities in the Rocky Mountain area and help identify local resources to ease the veteran's transition back to his or her community.

### **Referral Information**

For more information, please contact Patty Reisinger (NP) at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 2219.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)

## **BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM**

The Brain Injury Team works across disciplines to provide comprehensive and compassionate care to adults with brain injuries. The team offers assessments and therapeutic interventions to help patients reach maximum rehabilitation and functioning and an improved quality of life. We serve as educators and advocates for our patients and their families. The brain injury team is made up of rehabilitation professionals including, but not limited to, a psychologist, neuropsychologist, physiatrist, social worker, speech pathologist, occupational therapist, and a physical therapist.

For more information, please contact Michael Craine (Ph.D.) at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 2577.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)

## **AMPUTEE PROGRAM**

Our amputee clinic has years of experience in caring for veterans of all ages. We have an on-site prosthetic lab that can equip patients with new limbs that are more lifelike and powerful than ever before. We provide training for all levels of amputation and limb technologies. Our team includes a physiatrist, a physical therapist, an occupational therapist, two certified prosthetists, and a certified prosthetic technician. We also work with a rotating group of contracted community prosthetists who participate in each clinic.

Almost 45% of our clinic patients received an amputation due to war trauma, while almost 32% received an amputation due to a medical problem like diabetes, infection, or vascular disease. Regardless of the cause, our goal is to provide each veteran in need with a prosthetic device that will deliver the appropriate level of strength, range of motion, and function at the highest level of safety possible.

For more information, please contact Margaret Kent (PT) at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 3069.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)

## **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

The Assistive Technology Team works with veterans and family members to provide tools to our patients with disabilities to help them maximize their independence and function. Some examples of assistive technology include:

- Voice activated computer controls
- Door openers
- Switches to control electronic devices
- Speech boxes that allow patients with speaking disorders to communicate
- Adapted telephone systems
- Memory aids and other cognitive devices

Our team identifies a specific, individualized plan for each veteran. We then provide any and all appropriate devices and train veterans in their use.

For more information, please contact Kathy Walker (MA) at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 3338.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)

Updated: March 15, 2007

### **COMPREHENSIVE INPATIENT REHABILITATION PROGRAM**

This 12-bed unit on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor assists in patient in achieving a maximum level of functioning and freedom. We provide rehabilitation care to veterans across a full continuum of care. The program was designed to promote preventive and restorative care to veterans who have sustained a partial or total loss of functional independence as a result of illness or injury. Our team develops a specialized treatment plan based on a thorough evaluation. Our goals include improving the patient's mobility, communication, self-care, physical and psychological well-being, and vocational or recreational performance. We also educate patients and families on how to continue the patient's progress outside of our clinical environment.

For more information, please contact Barb Conroy at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 4271.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)

### **INTERDISCIPLINARY PAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

The Interdisciplinary Pain Management Team provides consultation, comprehensive assessments, and treatment for patients with chronic pain. We strive to improve pain management, maximize psychological well-being, and increase the patient's quality of life. The pain team is made up of rehabilitation professionals including, but not limited to, a psychologist, physiatrist, pharmacist, and an anesthesiologist. We work closely with other health care providers to educate and communicate with patients about the person in pain and the physical pain problem.

For more information, please contact Michael Craine (Ph.D.) at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 2577.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)

### **WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM**

The Wheelchair Program serves all veterans with a medical need for wheeled mobility. We provide an individual assessment and prescription manual and power wheelchairs. Each veteran is fitted with a custom wheelchair and trained in how to safely and appropriately use it. We also address the transportation of the wheelchair with the veteran and his or her family and consult if a vehicle modification, such as a lift or other equipment, is needed. We also offer a "Wheelchair Skills" clinic twice a month to train veterans using wheelchairs in higher level skills to improve their mobility in the community.

For more information, please contact Patrice Kennedy (PT) at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 4051.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)

Updated: March 15, 2007

## **PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS**

The Eastern Colorado Health Care System at the Denver VA Medical Center provides a full range of services to support vocational rehabilitation and psychological adjustment to serious and severe injuries. Vocational rehabilitation therapists develop a plan in coordination with the clinical team that will enable the patient to return to work. Therapists help coordinate and explain disability benefits and work with employers to ensure good job matches and suitable accommodations for the patient in the work environment. We work closely with VA Regional Vocational Rehabilitation, service organizations, and state vocational rehabilitation services to support vocational achievement throughout the lifespan for injured veterans. We also provide comprehensive mental health services for persons with stress reactions, such as PTSD, related to their military service and physical injuries. We support family involvement in psychosocial rehabilitation and provide education and advocacy to help the persons served obtain optimal vocational and psychological quality of life.

For more information, please contact Michael Craine (Ph.D.) at (303) 399-8020, Ext. 2577.

[\(Return to the Top of the Page\)](#)