

Dr. Jason Mazzarella

Whiplash & Chronic Pain Expert

Accredited CE by Leading Medical, Chiropractic,
and Allied Health Institutions



Jacobs School of Medicine
and Biomedical Sciences
University at Buffalo



CONCUSSION ISN'T “INVISIBLE” — IT'S FUNCTIONAL.

WHY MANY PATIENTS SUFFER LONG-TERM SYMPTOMS EVEN WHEN SCANS LOOK “NORMAL.”

COMMON CONCUSSION SYMPTOMS

- Brain Fog
- Memory & Forgetfulness
- Persistent Headaches
- Dizziness & Balance Problems
- Light / Noise Sensitivity
- Mood Changes / Fatigue

Many patients don't look "sick" on routine scans — but functionally the brain is dysregulated.

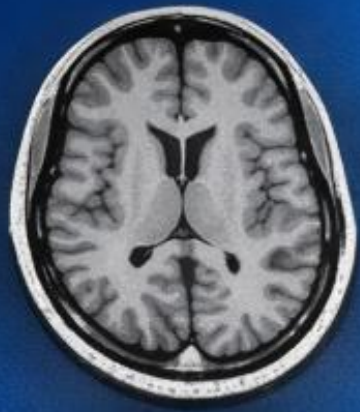


Why Standard Medicine Sometimes Misses Concussion.

Why Standard Medicine **Misses Concussion**

Normal CT / MRI Scan

Shows **STRUCTURE**

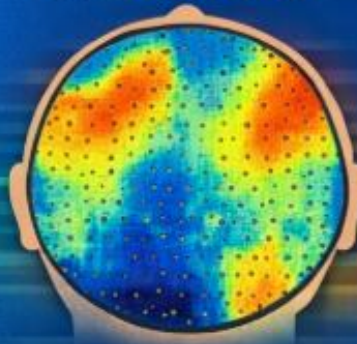


Looks "Normal"

Scans \neq
Brain **FUNCTION**

Functional Brain Activity

Shows **DYSFUNCTION**



Hidden Issues:

- Abnormal Brain Waves
- Network Imbalance

Patients are often told **"Everything looks fine"**... Yet they still suffer.

This is why some patients are told "everything looks fine" yet they still suffer.

CT & MRI show
structure **NOT**
function

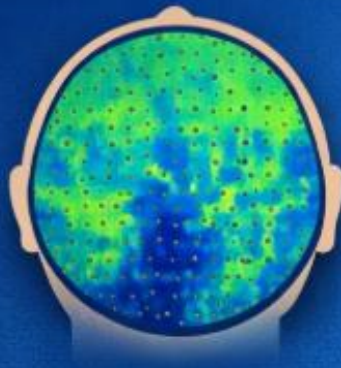
Tests like ImPACT
assess performance
but can miss subtle
dysfunction

Standard scans often
read "normal"
despite symptoms

QEEG: THE FUNCTIONAL BRAIN SCAN SOLUTION

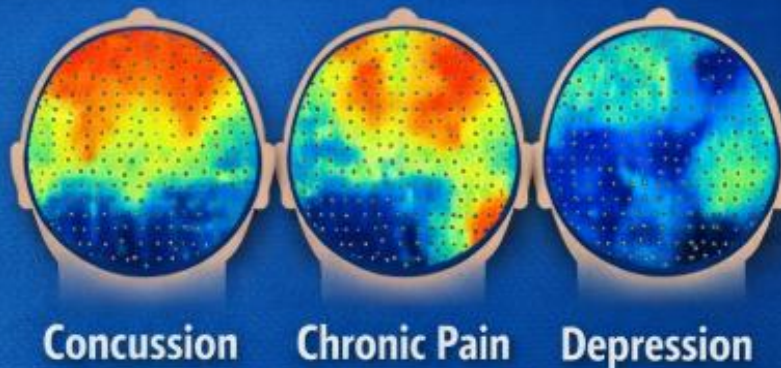
qEEG: The Functional Brain Scan Solution

Normal qEEG



Balanced Activity

Abnormal qEEG



Concussion

Dysregulated
Rhythms

Chronic Pain

Increased Activity

Depression

Underactive
Frontal Lobe



Quantitative EEG
(qEEG)



Maps electrical activity
of the brain



Reveals dysregulated
rhythms linked to
symptoms



Helps tailor targeted
treatment

qEEG uncovers patterns standard imaging can't especially in persistent post-concussion symptoms (PPCS).

SIDNEY CROSBY: A REAL-WORLD EXAMPLE

- Sidney Crosby suffered a prolonged concussion in 2011 and struggled with ongoing symptoms that **standard medical care did not fully resolve.**
- After months of limited progress with conventional care, Crosby sought treatment with Dr. Ted Carrick, a specialist in chiropractic neurology and functional approaches
- He made **substantial progress**, particularly with motion and balance training, under this functional neurology care and was able to return to professional hockey at a very high level.



CONCUSSION REHABILITATION: STRUCTURE VS FUNCTION

Concussion Structure Approach

Standard Medical

1. Structural imaging
2. Symptom management (Medications)
3. Rest & return protocols

Concussion Functional Approach

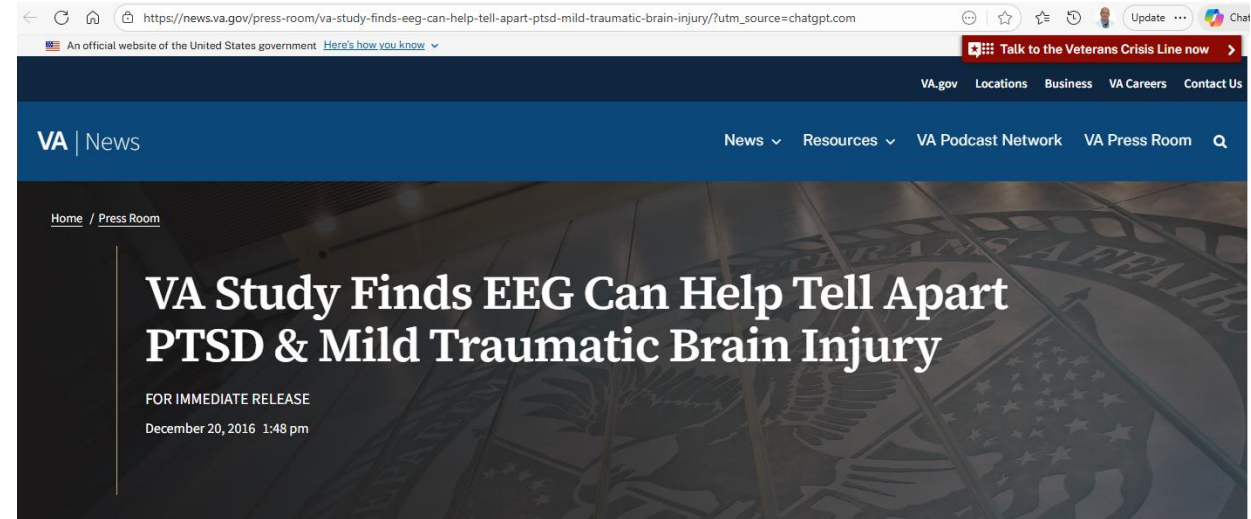
Functional Chiropractic Neurology

1. Functional brain mapping (qEEG)
2. Targeted brain network rehabilitation
3. Neuroplasticity-driven therapies

STEP 1: ADVANCED DIAGNOSIS

Functional Evaluation Includes:

- ✓ qEEG brain wave mapping
- ✓ Vestibular / balance testing
- ✓ Oculomotor (eye movement) assessment
- ✓ Autonomic nervous system evaluation



“That’s the holy grail,” said Franke. “We want to use the EEG to differentiate the problems, but also to predict recovery and be able to measure how people are doing in a more biological way than just measuring symptoms, although those are still relevant. But symptoms are also problematic because they’re influenced by so many things that aren’t the disease that we’re interested in.”

→ Precision diagnostics reveal *where the brain isn’t communicating properly, which allows for guiding treatment.*

STEP 2: TARGETED TREATMENT MODALITIES

- **Neurofeedback:**
- Re-programs brainwave patterns through real-time feedback.
- Research shows protocols like ILF neurofeedback can improve post-concussion symptoms vs standard care alone.



Specialized equipment translates brainwaves into sensory input the brain can use to self-regulate.
(Photo by Judy Carlson)

Individualized neurofeedback relieves concussion symptoms

STEP 2: TARGETED TREATMENT MODALITIES



Low-Level Laser / Photobiomodulation

Helps reduce
neuroinflammation &
support cellular
energy/metabolism

REVIEW article

Front. Neurol., 13 May 2025

Sec. Neurotrauma

Volume 16 - 2025 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fneur.2025.1560777>

Non-invasive therapeutics for neurotrauma:
a mechanistic overview

STEP 2: TARGETED TREATMENT MODALITIES



Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS)

**Modulates brain
network communication
and autonomic balance.**

**Clinical reports link
non-invasive VNS with
symptom improvement
in post-concussion
patients.**



► Front Neurol. 2025 Aug 26;16:1642034. doi: [10.3389/fneur.2025.1642034](https://doi.org/10.3389/fneur.2025.1642034) [↗](#)

Non-invasive vagus nerve stimulation is associated with the reduction in persistent post-concussion symptoms: an observational study

[Michael Ament](#)¹, [Emily Leonard](#)¹, [Peter S Staats](#)², [Norianne T Ingram](#)^{3,*}

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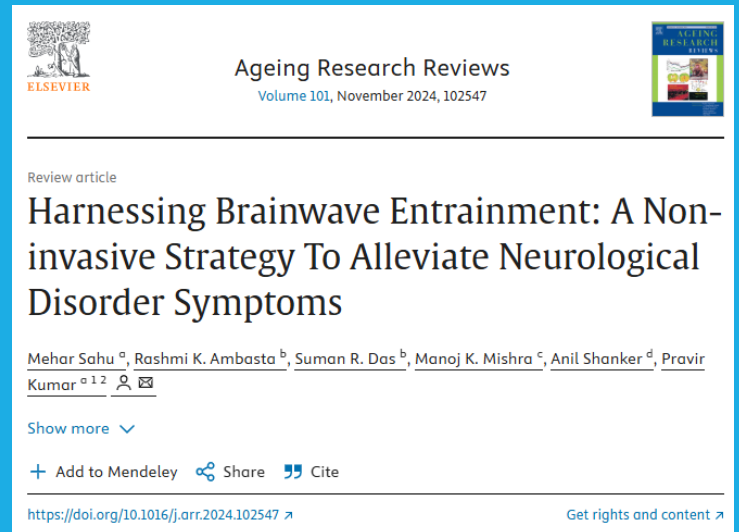
PMCID: PMC12420837 PMID: [40937177](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40937177/)

STEP 2: TARGETED TREATMENT MODALITIES

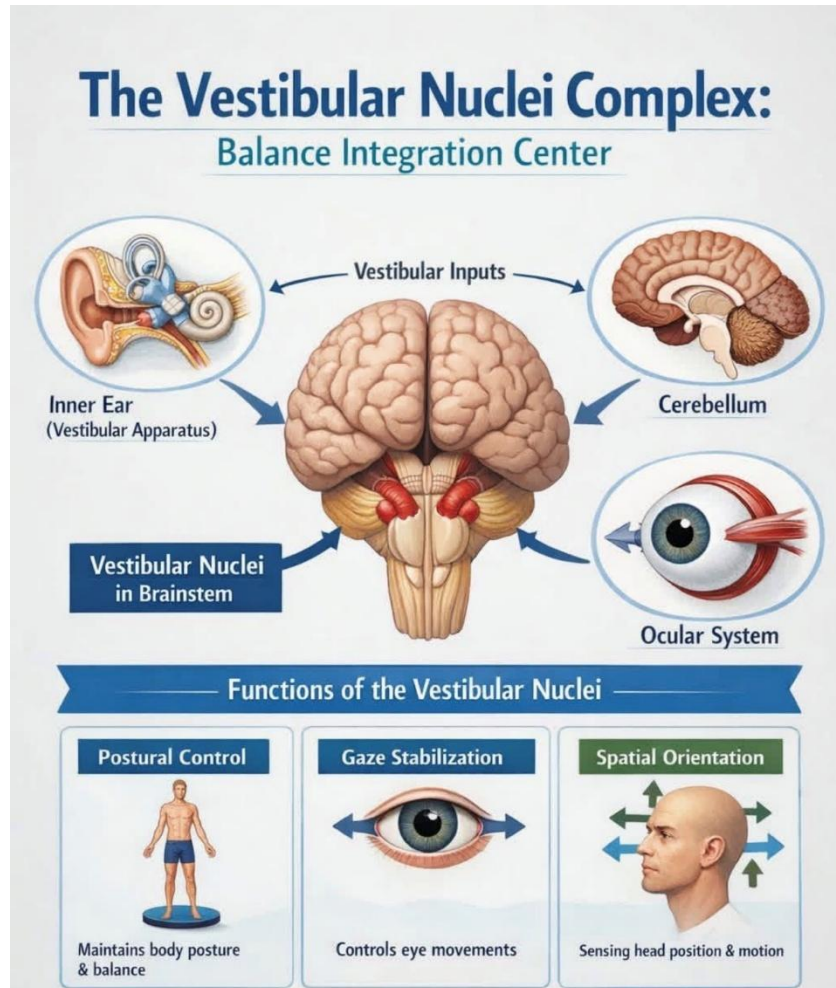


Light & Sound Entrainment

**Shifts brain states
(relaxation → focus)
through rhythmic sensory
stimulation and
complements
neurofeedback.**



STEP 2: TARGETED TREATMENT MODALITIES



Vestibular & Eye Movement Rehab

Targets balance, motion sensitivity, and visual tracking dysfunction common after concussion.

► Clin Sports Med. Author manuscript; available in PMC: 2016 Apr 1.

Published in final edited form as: Clin Sports Med. 2015 Jan 24;34(2):213-231. doi: [10.1016/j.csm.2014.12.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.csm.2014.12.005)

Current and emerging rehabilitation for concussion: A review of the evidence

[Steven P Broglio](#)^{1,2}, [Michael W Collins](#)³, [Richelle M Williams](#)¹, [Anne Mucha](#)^{3,4}, [Anthony Kontos](#)³

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PMCID: PMC4387881 NIHMSID: NIHMS650269 PMID: [25818710](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25818710/)

⚡ Concussions disrupt *brain networks* not always structure

⚡ Targeted therapies promote neuroplasticity

⚡ qEEG guides *personalized* treatment (not “one-size-fits-all”)



Why Functional Works

VA & DoD: Research Using EEG/qEEG to **Understand & Treat Concussion**

- ⚡ Concussions disrupt “**brain networks**” — not always structure
- ⚡ Targeted therapies promote **neuroplasticity**
- ⚡ qEEG guides “**personalized**” treatment (not “one-size-fits-all”)



Functional = **re-train and rebalance** the injured brain

WHY FUNCTIONAL WORKS

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SETTLE FOR “NORMAL SCANS, NORMAL REPORTS AND JUST REST”. YOU HAVE OPTIONS!

Functional brain evaluation → Precise care → Measurable recovery!

Take control of your health!

ACCREDITED TO TEACH

Accredited to Teach:

Whiplash Traumatology, Neurophysiology,
Pain & Treatment Seminar Series:
A Multidisciplinary Approach to Care

ENDORSED
McMaster
University

ACCREDITED BY
MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
& OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

This injury is typically **misunderstood, misdiagnosed, and mistreated**.
Medical schools recognize this, which is why my program that covers this
topic was accredited to **better educate doctors** and help patients.



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November 17, 2021

Dr. Jason Mazzarella
28 Finch Avenue West, Suite 212
Toronto, Ontario M2N2G7

RE: Whiplash Traumatology and Treatment: Injury Mechanisms, Neurophysiology, Pain, Special Testing and Treatment

Dear Dr. Mazzarella,

We have reviewed the application for the Whiplash Traumatology and Treatment: Injury Mechanisms, Neurophysiology, Pain, Special Testing and Treatment Program to commence as of March 5, 2022. We are pleased to inform you that this program has received endorsement for the period from December 1, 2021 – November 30, 2023.

The Whiplash Traumatology and Treatment Program meets the standards, policies and ethical guidelines outlined in the McMaster CPD Guidebook for Planning, Developing and Delivering Continuing Health Sciences Education Activities. As per the Faculty of Health Sciences Policy you can use the McMaster University/Faculty of Health Sciences name and/or logo in indicating the Office of CPD endorsement with the Whiplash Traumatology and Treatment Program.

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Functional brain evaluation → Precise care → Measurable recovery!

Take control of your health!



Accredited to Teach:

Whiplash Traumatology, Neurophysiology,
Pain & Treatment Seminar Series:
A Multidisciplinary Approach to Care

ENDORSED
McMaster
University

ACCREDITED BY
MICHIGAN STATE
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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
& OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

This injury is typically **misunderstood, misdiagnosed, and mistreated.**
Medical schools recognize this, which is why my program that covers this
topic was accredited to **better educate doctors** and help patients.



College of Osteopathic Medicine
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

August 12, 2021

Jason Mazarella, DC
28 Finch Avenue West, Suite 212
Toronto, Ontario M2N2G7

Dr. Mazarella,

Your request for accreditation of the “**Whiplash Traumatology and Treatment**” series which begins **March 5, 2022**, has been approved by the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine Office of Continuing Medical Education, for up to **31.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)**[™].

Please use the following statement for all advertising. If you are advertising the entire series, you will use the 31.75 credit count in the statement. If you are advertising the individual modules, please change the statement to reflect the actual module hours/credits (i.e., each module is 3 hours/credits).

Pain-Drs

WHIPLASH & CHRONIC PAIN EXPERT



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30 min

\$125

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FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT
WWW.DRJASONMAZZARELLA.COM**

To ensure accessibility and convenience for all patients, comprehensive evaluations and treatment sessions for concussion, whiplash, and related pain conditions are available both in-person at our clinic and virtually.

Whether you are local or remote, you can receive personalized, evidence-based care tailored to your needs from functional assessments to targeted treatment programs.

For virtual patients, we have vendor agreements to supply you with the equipment needed at near wholesale prices. Allowing you to save thousands, while still obtained top quality care

IN PERSON & VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS ARE AVAILABLE

 www.drjasonmazzarella.com



**Neurofunctional Concussion
& Brain Injury Rehabilitation**

qEEG Brain Mapping

Neurofeedback

Neural Entrainment

Photobiomodulation

- Identify Persistent Brain Dysregulation
- Train Neural Networks for Recovery
- Normalize Brainwave Activity
- Track Progress with qEEG

**Restore Attention
Stabilize Mood
Reduce Symptoms**

Neurofunctional Concussion Rehab

1 hr

\$95

[Book Now](#)

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