



Stephanie Kolakowsky-Hayner, Ph.D., CBIST

Dr. Stephanie Kolakowsky-Hayner is the Director of Rehabilitation Research at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose, CA and holds an appointment as a Clinical Assistant Professor Affiliated in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine. She is the Project Director of the U.S. Department of Education, National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) funded Northern California Traumatic Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury Model System of Care Follow-up Centers and the Partnering-PI for the DoD-funded study of rTMS: A Treatment to Restore Function after Severe TBI. Dr. Kolakowsky-Hayner oversees the SCVMC brain injury, stroke, spinal cord injury, spina bifida, and amputee peer support programs with over 100 active participants, chairs the multi-disciplinary, multi-day, multi-track, Santa Clara Valley Brain Injury Conference, and was instrumental in securing funding for TBI Matters, a community-based quarterly brain injury education series. Additionally, in collaboration with her colleagues at the RRC, Dr. Kolakowsky-Hayner maintains the Center for Outcome Measurement in Brain Injury (COMBI) website, a resource used by researchers and clinicians throughout the world.

Dr. Kolakowsky-Hayner holds two Bachelors degrees from the University of Connecticut; one in Psychology and one in Sociology, a master's degree in Experimental Psychology from Towson University and a Ph.D. in Health Related Sciences with a concentration in Rehabilitation Leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). She received extensive training in psychological and neurobehavioral interviewing and assessment as a NIDRR-funded predoctoral fellow and has nearly 20 years experience in research related activities including literature review, editing, database creation and maintenance, data collection, statistical analyses, coordination of multi-site research projects, maintaining project integrity, dissemination of findings, supervision of junior and senior level research staff and students, and grant writing. She has made more than 170 professional presentations and published over 160 peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters, and other information materials for professionals and consumers with disabilities. She was the Guest Editor for a NeuroRehabilitation Special Issue on Community Based Rehabilitation, an Associate Editor, for Kreutzer, DeLuca, and Caplan's Encyclopedia of Clinical Neuropsychology, the Co-editor of the Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists' Essential Brain Injury Guide, and reviews for multiple academic and medical journals.

In addition to being the proud mom of 5 school-aged children, Dr. Kolakowsky-Hayner is the Chairman of the Board for the Brain Injury Association of California, serves on the Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists Board of Governors, the International Brain Injury Association 10th World Congress on Brain Injury Conference Planning Committee, the American Spinal Injury Association Prevention Committee, the SCVMC Institutional Review Board, and the SCVMC Rehabilitation Leadership Team. She actively serves on the Board of Governors and multiple committees and task forces of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) including Chairing the Early Career Development Course Task Force and the International Networking Group Conference Task Force. She also serves on the Program Planning Committee, ACRM Awards Committee, the Policy and Legislation Committee, the Brain Injury Special Interest Group Communications Committee and the Brain Injury Special Interest Group Nominating Committee. Dr. Kolakowsky-Hayner's main interests include primary and secondary prevention, peer mentoring, ethnicity and cultural issues, return to work, and family and caregiver needs after neurologic injury.