

Dr. Jason Mazzearella

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North American Spine Institute, Inc

Dr. Jason Mazzearella - Director North American Spine Institute, Inc.

IME Complete.

Dr. Mazzearella has the unique ability to evaluate injury / motor vehicle accident specific trauma in order to make a determination of need due to specific whiplash training including all stages of accident injury determination, evaluation, treatment and long term outcome/future care costs. This includes over 400 hours of continuing education and 4 different certificates of training in motor vehicle trauma and whiplash.

Motor vehicle trauma evaluations begins at the accident scene. Dr. Mazzearella has Accident Investigation training through Northwestern University School of Public Health which allows for speed estimates, crush estimates, PDOF determination, and accident mapping (skid marks, gouges, yaw marks, grooves, scrapes, etc). In addition, Dr. Mazzearella has Accident Reconstruction training through a Pedestrian crash course via Michigan State University and training through the Toronto Police College which included slide to stop calculations, fault, human factors, series of events determination, vehicle dynamics, at scene drag factor and grade determinations, roadway evidence/analysis/evaluation, tire mark analysis and evaluation, forensic mapping, scaled diagrams, time distance determinations, restraint system evaluation and investigation, dangerous goods, at scene photography, evidence retrieval and analysis and at scene accident investigation and outdoor scene investigation.

Dr. Mazzearella also has event data recording specific training including being certified in crash data retrieval and crash data analysis. This certification allows for downloads of the vehicle data after an accident and can include topics such as speed at the time of collision, usage of brakes, brake lights, seatbelt usage, occupant number, braking, etc. Lastly, Dr. Mazzearella has a certification in motor vehicle crash forensics risk analysis which he completed while studying live full scale human volunteer crash testing. This training allows for a determination of occupant kinematics and biomechanics during a crash as well as seatbelt / restraint system kinematics, air bag deployment and safety, bumper standards, oblique impact vector kinematics, frontal impact vector kinematics, rear impact vector kinematics, lateral impact vector kinematics, heat restraint geometry risk/safety, analysis, bullet vs target vehicle collision comparison and analysis, roll over research and child safety. This information can then be combined with whiplash specific knowledge and his degree in Kinesiology Human Movement to make a determination on injury potential, injury likelihood and if the reported injuries correlate to the crash forensics involved.

The next stage would include evaluation and treatment of the occupant to determine the injury likelihood and treatment necessity if any. Dr. Mazzearella is a certified kinesiologist, doctor of chiropractic and has taken over 400 post graduate CE hours approved courses on whiplash specific injury and has received a certificate in whiplash and brain traumatology, an advanced certification in whiplash and brain traumatology, a certification in motor vehicle trauma and a certification in motor vehicle crash forensics risk analysis. This training allows for a proper and complete evaluation using accident specific factors to develop an injury and occupant specific treatment plan if necessary and/or determination of therapy need.

Lastly due to Dr. Mazzearella's whiplash specific training and knowledge of Late Whiplash likelihood including knowledge and review of over 80 peer reviewed scientific research articles of whiplash recovery as well as knowledge of chronic pain development, process and management and review of over 150 chronic pain whiplash references, Dr. Mazzearella has the ability to make a scientifically sound and research based decision of chronicity due to an injury along with outcome/disability likelihood and future care cost estimates.

In summary, Dr. Mazzarella has the specific training to evaluate crash forensics and occupant kinematics of an accident to develop an injury potential pattern and then correlate this information with findings of a physical examination to determine the likelihood of an accident related injury and the benefits of specific treatment. Dr. Mazzarella then has the ability to evaluate responses in treatment along with chronic pain concepts and late whiplash research to make a determination of treatment need, pain and suffering and disability likelihood/outcome.

Academically, Dr. Mazzarella is the developer of a whiplash traumatology and treatment seminar series that is intended to educate all healthcare providers on whiplash specific injury mechanisms, epidemiology, anatomy, guidelines, pain, pathophysiology, grading scales, biomechanics, kinematics, common syndromes, treatment options, physical examination, reports, self assessment questionnaires, IME reports, Medical shorthand, coding, crash forensics, accident reconstruction, medico-legal concepts, risk factors, special imaging, and special testing. This 5 module whiplash traumatology program was endorsed/co-sponsored by National University of Health Sciences, the University of Buffalo School of Medicine, the American Chiropractic Association, and the American Academy of Family Physician and attendees were able to receive CCE, CME and AAFP credit for attendance. In addition, I have taught a separate Whiplash Injury: Guidelines and Rebuttal/IME report Writing seminar, a Pain Management and Treatment Options and Research seminar both approved for CCE credit through the American Chiropractic Association. This program was so well received that it obtained acknowledgment from organizations in both North America and Europe.

Clinically, I completed an Internship at the Buffalo New York Veteran's Hospital and a rotation at the United States Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid New York. I have treated well over 5000 patients, with over 3000 in the United States and over 2000 in Canada. This treatment included Chiropractic care, physiotherapy, acupuncture, nerve mobilization, soft tissue massage therapy techniques, pain management, proprioception training, vestibular rehabilitation, orthotic prescription, therapeutic activities, therapeutic exercises, traction therapy, nutrition, post surgical rehabilitation, and amputee desensitization and pain modulation therapy. I have also completed approximately 5000 IME assessments including approximately 1000-1200 brain injury traumatology Assessments, approximately 1000-1200 chronic pain assessments, approximately 50 motor vehicle crash forensics assessments and the remainder including general IME's, rebuttals, functional assessments, PDA's, In Home assessments, work site assessments, and disability risk analysis assessments.

Education:

Doctor of Chiropractic – [New York Chiropractic College](#)
Fellowship in Medical Acupuncture – [International Academy of Medical Acupuncture](#)
B.S. Kinesiology Movement Science – [The Pennsylvania State University](#)
B.S. Health Policy & Administration – [The Pennsylvania State University](#)
12 Pain Management Certificates – [American Medical Association](#)
6 Pain Management Certificates - [American Academy of Family Physicians](#)
Whiplash and Brain Traumatology Certificate – [SRISD](#)
Motor Vehicle Crash Forensics Risk Analysis Certification – [SRISD](#)
Elite Sports Science Rotation – [United States Olympic Training Center \(NY\)](#)
VA Chiropractic Internship – [Buffalo New York Veteran's Hospital](#)
Certified Kinesiologist - [Ontario Kinesiology Association](#)
Certified Brain Injury Specialist - [Brain Injury Association of America](#)
Diplomat American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress - [AAETS](#)
Certified Pain Management - [AAETS](#)
Certification in Acute Traumatic Stress Management - [AAETS](#)
Diplomate American Academy of Pain Management - [AAPM](#)
Diplomate Canadian Academy of Pain Management - [CAPM](#)
Crash (Event) Data Retrieval Certification - [CATAIR/Crash Data Specialists](#)
Crash (Event) Data Technician Certification - [CATAIR/Crash Data Specialists](#)
Accident Investigation - [Northwestern University](#)
Advanced Whiplash and Brain Traumatology - [SRISD](#)

Accident Reconstruction Level 2 - [Toronto Police](#)

Hospital Experience and Training

Over the last 10 years Dr. Mazzearella has had the opportunity to see the healthcare system from both the financial and clinical side of healthcare.

As a student at [Penn State University](#), Dr. Mazzearella applied for and was accepted into an Internship at [Windber Medical Center](#) where he was involved in Business Development. Dr. Mazzearella, through his internship participated in several projects including Hospice, HealthStyles (physical and cardiac rehabilitation), and the [Dr. Dean Ornish Program](#).

The [Dr. Dean Ornish Program](#) was developed in California by [Dr. Dean Ornish](#). This program was a nutritional program designed to help patients with severe heart disease. Dr. Mazzearella worked along with others at [Windber Medical Center](#) and Walter Reed Medical Center to bring this program to the east coast and give severe heart disease patients a chance at a healthier happier life.

Dr. Mazzearella was also involved in several clinical rotations in hospital settings. Dr. Mazzearella was a student intern at the [Buffalo New York Veterans Hospital](#) and [Erie County Medical Center](#). Dr. Mazzearella was involved in externships with [Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center](#) and [Prince William Health Systems](#).

Dr. Mazzearella, after a competitive application process was the first of his class to be accepted and participate in ground-breaking new Chiropractic and Orthopaedic internship program through [New York Chiropractic College](#) and the [Buffalo New York Veterans Hospital](#) (1). The benefit of this program is that it provides chiropractic students with the opportunity to share common educational ground with medical students, thus helping to bridge the clinical gap between the two healthcare fields (2).

Dr. Mazzearella's VA internship experience provided him with approximately 270 clinical hours of patient care and management in a hospital setting dealing with patients suffering from chronic pain, disability and post traumatic stress (1). In addition, he was exposed to approximately 80 hours of orthopaedic patient management and surgical observations under the supervision of Dr. Israel Ziv, Head Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Buffalo New York Veteran's Hospital and liaison between the chiropractic and orthopedic fields (1).

Lastly, his VA internship training provided him with approximately 40 hours of research training which has helped him develop skills that he now uses in his own medical/chiropractic sponsored seminar series on whiplash treatment and traumatology (1).

The VA internship program is the basis for which Dr. Dunn, staff chiropractor at the Buffalo New York Veterans Hospital is using to develop the first Chiropractic Residency Program (1).

Dr. Dunn made the following statements in regards to the internship program the Dr. Mazzearella was part of.

"The significance of this VA chiropractic internship is that it represents the only educational opportunity of its kind currently available to chiropractic student interns (1)"

"The implications of the VA chiropractic internship program are significant with relation to research, the development of a chiropractic residency program within the VA Health Care System (1)"

1. Dunn, AS: A Chiropractic Internship Program in the Department of Veteran Affairs Healthcare System: *J. Chiropr Educ* Vol. 19, No 2: 2005
2. Dunn, AS: A survey of chiropractic academic affiliations within the department of veteran's affairs health care system. *Chiropr Educ*. 2007 Fall; 21(2): 138-14

Rehabilitation Training and Experience

Dr. Mazzearella has over 3000 hours of clinical training under the supervision of a Doctor of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapist treating patients suffering from whiplash, chronic pain, post traumatic stress disorder, shoulder/knee injuries, and post surgical cases such as shoulder reconstruction, knee reconstruction, and amputee's functional rehabilitation.

In addition, Dr. Mazzearella was selected into a clinical rotation at the [United States Olympic Training Facility](#) in Lake Placid New York. This rotation concentrated on sports medicine and the rehabilitation of elite athletes. During Dr. Mazzearella's stay at the Olympic Training Facility, he was introduced to different training and rehabilitative techniques to help speed up the recovery process and prevent future injury and pain.

Dr. Mazzearella now uses some of these same techniques in treating his patients that are suffering from sports injuries, whiplash and chronic pain.

Whiplash Training and Education

Dr. Mazzearella has devoted his career to whiplash injuries, both in treating patients suffering from this disorder and teaching healthcare providers about the basic principals of this injury and how to use a multidisciplinary approach to care to help alleviate symptoms in a time frame that is usually quicker than the current guidelines.

Dr. Mazzearella's training involves over 30 post graduate courses, on whiplash, whiplash traumatology, and whiplash treatment. Including a certificate in whiplash and brain traumatology, an advanced certificate in whiplash and brain traumatology, a certification in motor vehicle trauma and a specialized certification in motor vehicle crash forensic risk analysis.

In addition, Dr. Mazzearella reviews approximately 500 peer reviewed literature articles on whiplash, whiplash associated disorders, and pain management each year, so that he can keep up with the most up-to-date information to better serve his patients and the doctors taking his post graduate continuing education courses.

During Dr. Mazzearella's whiplash training, he also attended the 2006 International Whiplash Conference held in San Diego California and participated in crash test studies involving pedestrians.

Dr. Mazzearella stated, "This Conference provided attending physicians the opportunity to see first hand live full scale human volunteer crashes at low speed. By having the opportunity to actually see how the injury mechanism occurs, I believe that I can now provide a more complete and detailed treatment plan for my patients. This will hopefully not only decrease the chance of the patient developing chronic pain, but also decrease the duration of care needed by each patient due to the specificity of the treatment plan I can develop for each individual person. Each person is unique and each person's treatment plan should be unique and detailed to their needs to receive the best results possible."

Lastly, Dr. Mazzearella has joined with the [American Chiropractic Association](#) to teach a whiplash teleseminar series that was offered in October 2009 and will be offered again in September 2010. Please see the ACA's website for further information about this CE approved teleseminar.

ACA Teleseminar:

[Whiplash](#)

Pain Management Training and Experience

Dr. Mazzarella has both clinical and academic experience in treating patients suffering from chronic pain and disability.

During Dr. Mazzarella's clinical rotations at the [Buffalo New York Veteran's Hospital](#), he was directly involved in patient care for both chiropractic patients and orthopedic patients. This provided Dr. Mazzarella a unique opportunity to treat patients suffering from severe chronic pain, post traumatic stress disorder, and cognitive impairments in a hospital setting.

Academically, Dr. Mazzarella has taken over 75 post graduate course on several different topics in pain management. He has 12 certificates in pain management from the [American Medical Association](#) and participated in 5 post graduate pain management courses through the [American Pain Society](#) and 6 post graduate pain management courses through the American Academy of Family Physicians. In addition he has Diplomate status with the American Academy of Pain Management and Diplomate Status with the Canadian Academy of Pain Management. Lastly he has a certification in Chronic Pain Management related to traumatic stress.

Due to Dr. Mazzarella's clinical and academic work in pain management and treatment he/the NASI is currently listed on the following pain web sites:

1. [Canadian Pain Society](#)
2. [Canadian Pain Coalition](#)
3. [Pain.com](#)
4. [National Pain Foundation](#)
5. [Chronic Pain Association of Canada](#)
6. [Hospitals World Wide](#)
7. American Academy of Pain Management
8. Canadian Academy of Pain Management

Dr. Mazzarella is also a member of the following organizations:

1. [National Pain Foundation](#)
2. [American Pain Foundation](#)
3. [National Pain Education Council](#)
4. [American Academy of Pain Management](#)
5. Canadian Academy of Pain Management
6. International Association for the Study of Pain

Lastly, Dr. Mazzarella has joined with the [American Chiropractic Association](#) to teach a pain management teleseminar series that will be offered in May 2010. Please see the ACA's website for further information about this CE approved teleseminar.

ACA Teleseminar – May 27, 2010:
[Pain Management Treatment Options and Research](#)

Brain Injury Training and Experience

A great number of people suffer traumatic brain injury from MVA, slip and falls and work related accidents. Over 30% of mild traumatic brain injuries occur from motor vehicle accidents. The most common result is that the person experiences lowered concentration, trouble reading, mental slowness, and sleep disruption. The difficult part of brain injury is that after an injury you can appear normal to friends, family and even your doctor.

Dr. Mazzarella's training involves several post graduate courses as well as a Certification from the Brain Injury Association of America. Dr. Mazzarella has taken several post graduate courses covering topics associated with traumatic brain injury including the following:

1. Ontario Brain Injury Association: Module 1- 7
2. Brain Injury Association of America
3. Traumatic Brain Injury Assessment, Impact and Recovery
4. Lifestyle Medicine for Stress Management
5. Mild Traumatic Brain Injury
6. Applied Behavior Analysis
7. Brain Injury and Rehabilitation
8. Brain Anatomy and Function
9. Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
10. Recognizing and treating insomnia in primary care practice
11. Recognizing and Treating Insomnia
12. Neurology

Dr. Mazarella is also a member of the following organizations:

1. [Brain Injury Association of America](#)
2. [Ontario Brain Injury Association](#)
3. [Brain Injury Society of Toronto](#)

Traumatic Stress Training and Experience

Dr. Mazarella has been involved with the evaluation and treatment of Traumatic stress disorders throughout his career with both whiplash/motor vehicle accident patients and as an intern at the Buffalo New York Veteran's Hospital.

Traumatic stress refers to an overpowering experience that effect both the mind and the body. Traumatic stress can occur due to motor vehicle accidents, sports injuries, and in general with work/ financial stressors or in reaction to chronic pain. This traumatic stress or trauma will affect each individual person in a unique way. Some of those who have undergone trauma can rebound quickly while other may take days, weeks, months or even years before seeing signs of recovery. Motor vehicle accidents can be a traumatic event due to the injury itself, dealing with the insurance companies, lawyers and treatment facilities in general and due to the lack of overall understanding of the injury mechanism as may special imaging tests are not sensitive enough to show "whiplash type injuries". In addition traumatic stress has been shown to elevate symptoms of pain in those suffering from chronic pain, pain lasting longer then 3-6 months (in general).

Dr. Mazarella's has taken several post graduate courses covering topics associated with traumatic stress and has obtained the following Certificates/Certification listed below:

1. Certification in Pain Management (CPM*)
2. Diplomat Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress (DAAETS*)
3. University of Texas Medical School
4. [Harvard Medical School](#)
5. [Brain Injury Association of America](#)

Dr. Mazarella is also a member of the following organizations

1. American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress
2. Brain Injury Association of America

*The National Center for Crisis Management
in collaboration with The American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress

Post Graduate Teaching Experience

Dr. Jason Mazarella is the developer and instructor for a CE approved Whiplash Traumatology and Treatment Seminar series that is offered in North American and which provides those attending

(Medical Doctors, Chiropractors, Physical Therapists, and Osteopathic Doctors etc) a post graduate educational experience in the field of whiplash traumatology.

[American Chiropractic Association](#)
[National University of Health Sciences.](#)
[University of Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences \(2009\)](#)
[American Academy of Family Physicians \(2009\)](#)

Dr. Mazzarella has also joined with the [American Chiropractic Association](#) to teach a pain management and whiplash teleseminar series that will be offered in 2010. Please see the ACA's website for further information about this CE approved teleseminar.

ACA Teleseminar – May 27, 2010:
[Pain Management Treatment Options and Research](#)

ACA Teleseminar – September 21, 2010
[Whiplash](#)

Certificates and Professional Post Graduate Training

Dr. Mazzarella has Certificates for Post Graduate Training from the following schools and organizations:

[Harvard Medical School](#)
[Yale University School of Medicine](#)
[Baylor College of Medicine](#)
[Johns Hopkins University](#)
[University of Texas Medical School](#)
[University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine](#)
[University of Michigan School of Medicine](#)
[University of Washington School of Medicine](#)
[The Cleveland Clinic](#)
[The American Medical Association](#)
[The United States Olympic Training Center](#)
[The Department of Veteran's Affairs](#)
[American College of Allergy, Asthma, Immunology](#)
[The Dannemiller Memorial Educational Foundation](#)
[The Spine Research Institute of San Diego](#)
[University of Florida College of Medicine](#)
[Duke Medicine](#)
[University of Alabama Medical School](#)
[University of Nebraska Medical School](#)
[Ontario Brain Injury Association](#)