



Hypnosis & Conversion Disorders*

Daniel Brown, Ph.D.

Dec. 21, 2013 (Sat. 9:00am-5:00pm)

Newton MA

This workshop is on the assessment and hypnotic treatment of a variety of conversion disorders. The course will address: defining, assessing, and diagnosing conversion disorders; the role of conflict and somatic learning in the development of conversion symptoms; and treatment of: pseudoseizures, contractures, tics, conversion paralysis, vocal cord dyskinesia, focal blindness, elective deafness and muteness, and loss of sensation. The primary emphasis will be on step-by-step treatment protocols using exploratory & somatic information-processing approaches to hypnotherapy. Teaching by lecture, demonstration of methods, and case illustration. Hypnosis training required.

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Dec. 20, 2013
Course Outline

Friday Dec. 20, 2013

9:00-10:10:15 am

- Historical origins
- DSM & ICD diagnostic criteria for conversion disorder
- Types of CD
- Psychodynamic models for conversion symptoms
- Cognitive model for CD
- Neurobiological evidence in CD
- Assessment of CD—General principles
- Treatment Overview

10:15-10:30am BREAK

10:30-12:00 noon

- Types of conversion disorders
 - Non-epileptic seizures (NES)
 - Overview of assessment & treatment
 - Case illustration

12:00-1:00pm LUNCH BREAK

1:00-3:00pm

- Psychogenic movement disorders (PMD)--Contractures, myoclonus, tics
 - Case illustration
- Psychogenic disorders of stance & gait (PDSG)
 - Paralysis & weakness
 - Neurobiological evidence
 - Case illustration

- Dynamic exploratory hypnotherapy
 - Cognitive/somatic information-processing approach

3:00-3:15pm BREAK

3:15-5:00pm

Vocal cord dyskinesia

Case illustration

Focal blindness

Case illustration

Elective deafness

Unexplained sensory loss

Case illustration—traumatic loss of breast sensation

Conversion pain

Complex conversion symptoms

Hysterical denial of pregnancy—case illustration

Stigmata