Name of Speaker(s): Mary Shea

Date of Presentation: April 17, 2012

Session Title: Pathophysiology: Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

Abstract/Description of Session: This workshop will initially focus on the etiology, pathology and typical medical treatment for individuals with multiple sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease. We will then spend the majority of time exploring assistive technology products with respect to mobility, computer access and augmentative and alternative communication devices. Mobility and seating system technology will be explored in more depth than the other assistive technology products and case studies will be utilized to facilitate participant's learning and ability to integrate the concepts into immediate practice.

Learning Objectives:

1. The participant will be able to define and describe common pathologies of multiple sclerosis.
2. The participant will be able to define and describe common pathologies of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
3. The participant will be able to list three assistive technology interventions for clients with multiple sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Length of Session: 2 hours

Speaker Qualifications (brief bio): Mary Shea is an occupational therapist who has been working with durable medical equipment service provision for the last 18 years. She is the clinical manager of wheelchair services at Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation. Ms. Shea is an adjunct professor at NYU and Mercy College and is a guest lecturer for assistive technology and spinal cord injury topics in the occupational therapy departments at Long Island University, and SUNY Downstate medical Center. Ms. Shea maintains a small private practice, has authored several textbook chapters and articles, and has presented wheelchair-related workshops nationally and internationally.