BACK IT UP! BASICS OF BACK SUPPORTS
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Toward Independence

This presentation will outline the basics of back supports and the importance of their use as a part of the seating system. What are the postural issues that the client may have that will lead to the consideration of a back support being prescribed? How does the pelvic stability and positions effect the client’s spine? How do we determine the features in a back support that will be most beneficial to assist the client with postural alignment, stability, skin protection, comfort and function? Determining an overall seating system starts with the full client assessment, including the mat assessment. Outcomes of the mat assessment will assist in determining how much support the client requires and where the support should be applied. Evaluation of products allows the team to best decide on the prescription that will meet as many of the client’s needs as possible. Back supports range from upholstery to modular to custom. There are variations within each category of support and often there is a combination of styles and features used in a single prescription. The back support is an essential component of the overall seating system. Its height, contour, weight, adjustability and cosmetic appearance all affect how the client will be supported, how they will function and how they will feel.

References:
3. Wheelchair.ca . wheelchair.ca/seating/backrests.php

Speaker Bio:
Brenlee Mogul-Rotman is an Occupational Therapist and ATP who owns a private practice in the Toronto area. She provides assessment and treatment to a variety of client populations, most specifically brain injured and spinal cord injured clients. Brenlee has a special interest in the area of seating and mobility and is involved with manufacturers and vendors with product development, clinical trials and product application. Brenlee is a well known presenter and has presented internationally on various topics related to seating and mobility. Brenlee is a member of the Professional Standard’s Board of RESNA.