



ELLIA CIAMMAICHELLA, DO, JD

Expert in Spinal Cord Injury Medicine, Brain Injury Medicine, and Stroke

Reno, NV 89523 • (775) 453-0029 • doctor@ownv.com

BOARD CERTIFICATIONS

American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR)

- Brain injury medicine
- Spinal cord injury medicine
- Physical medicine and rehabilitation

American Osteopathic Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (AOBPMR)

- Physical medicine and rehabilitation

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

- Dr. Ellia Ciammaichella, DO, JD, leverages a unique blend of decades in law and one decade in healthcare to champion improved health outcomes within the disability community.
- She is triple board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation, brain injury medicine, and spinal cord injury medicine.
- She has a full-time medical practice primarily working in inpatient rehabilitation hospitals and is an expert that can assist in establishing standards of care and/or breaches.
- Her unique understanding of common complications of injuries and anticipated quality of life create a framework for understanding the extent of damages.

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

Academic

2021-present Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, Reno, NV

Journals

2022-present Editorial Board Member, Sexuality and Disability (Springer)
 2022-present Peer Review Member, Journal of Legal Medicine (Taylor and Francis)
 2024-present Peer Review Member, Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine (Taylor and Francis)
 2025-present Editor in Chief, Spinal Cord Injury Question Bank (StatPearls Publications)

Clinical Practice Guidelines

2022-present Steering Committee Member, Consortium for Spinal Cord Medicine

Professional Society Leadership

2022-present Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Committee Member, Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals
 2025-present Chair of Advocacy Committee, Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals (ASCIP)
 2025-present American College of Legal Medicine Delegate to the American Medical Association
 2025-2027 Board of Governors, American College of Legal Medicine
 2025-2027 Board, Member-at-Large, American Paraplegic Society (Section board of ASCIP)
 2027-present Council Member, Nevada State Medical Association
 2027-present Co-Chair of Government Affairs Commission, Nevada State Medical Association

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals
 American College of Legal Medicine
 American Medical Association
 American Osteopathic Association
 American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 Association of Academic Physiatrists
 Nevada State Medical Association

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES

Medical Licenses: Active in California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Washington

Certificate in Healthcare Management from University of Houston in Clearlake, Texas, August 2018

Bar Member of the State Bar of California (active)



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EDUCATION / TRAINING

Undergraduate

2001 BS, Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, CA

Doctoral

2005 JD with Honors, The George Washington University Law School, Washington, DC

2015 DO, Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine, Henderson, NV

Postdoctoral

2015-2016 Internship, Traditional Rotating Internship, College Medical Center, Long Beach, CA

2016-2019 Residency, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, McGovern Medical School at UT Health, Houston, TX

2019-2020 Fellowship, Spinal Cord Injury Medicine, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

Other

2018 Healthcare Management Certificate, University of Houston, Clearlake, TX

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022-present Chief Executive Officer, Attending Physician & Expert, Osteopathic Wellness and Rehabilitation, PLLC, Reno, NV

2023-2024 Attending Physician, Providence St. Elias Specialty Hospital, Anchorage, AK

2021-2022 Attending Physician and Spinal Cord Injury Medical Program Director, Renown Physiatry, Reno, NV

2020-2021 Attending Physician, Eastern Washington Physiatry Providence Medical Group, Spokane, WA

2019-2020 Visiting Instructor, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

2007-2008 Patent Litigation Attorney, Foley & Lardner LLP, Palo Alto, CA

2005-2007 Law Clerk for the Honorable Alex R. Munson, US District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Saipan, MP

PUBLICATIONS

Original Research

2024 Jaramillo J, Walker J, Hicks, T, Thomas F, **Ciammaichella E**, Harfenist S, Tam K, Whitchurch J. Embracing Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA): Cultivating understanding internally to foster external change. *J Spinal Cord Med.* 2024; 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10790268.2024.2426312>.

2020 Koropulu R, Stampas A, Uhlig-Reche H, **Ciammaichella E**, et al. Comparing outcomes of mechanical ventilation with high vs. moderate tidal volumes in tracheostomized patients with spinal cord injury in acute inpatient rehabilitation setting: a retrospective cohort study [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 9]. *Spinal Cord.* 2020;10.1038/s41393-020-0517-4. doi:10.1038/s41393-020-0517-4.

Editorials

2022 **Ciammaichella E**, Harfenist S, Hough S, Jaramillo J, Tam K, Thomas FP, Walker J. What an IDEA! Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access in the Spinal Cord Injury Community. *J Spinal Cord Med.* 2022 May;45(3):325-326. doi: 10.1080/10790268.2022.2069539. PMID: 35608387; PMCID: PMC9135431.

Book Chapters

2024 **Ciammaichella E**. Liability for Physicians Who Certify Medical Cannabis Therapy (MCT) Chapter. Shafeek Sandy Sanbar, Priyandarshini Pandey, Chendur S. Pandian (Eds). *Legal Medicine*, Eighth Edition, Elsevier (2024).

2022 **Ciammaichella E**, Cruz D, Krull C. Pulmonary Issues in Spinal Cord Injury Chapter. *Essential Spinal Cord Injury Question Bank*, First Edition, Springer (2022).

2022 **Ciammaichella E**. Healthcare Systems Chapter. Blessen Eapen, MD, and David X. Cifu, MD (Eds). *Spinal Cord Injury Medicine: Board Review*, First Edition, Elsevier (2022).

2018 Bosques G, **Ciammaichella E**. Neural Tube Defects Chapter. Walter R. Frontera MD, PhD, and Julie K. Silver MD (Eds). *Essentials of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, Fourth Edition, Elsevier (2018).



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Posters

- 9/2024 Chen A, **Ciammaichella E**. Lessons learned in the management of spinal cord injury and need for physiatry consultation: A Case Report. Abstract submitted for American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 2024 Annual Assembly.
- 4/2024 Chen A, Payne D, **Ciammaichella E**. Invisible Emboli: A Case Report of Cerebral Gas Embolism Following Bronchoscopy. American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Mid-Year Meeting 2024, Minneapolis, MN.
- 3/2023 Ly A, **Ciammaichella E**. A delayed diagnosis of statin-induced myopathy: A Case Report. American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Mid-Year Meeting 2023, Philadelphia, PA.
- 9/2022 Hough S, Hicks T, **Ciammaichella E**. et al. A Paramount IDEA: Introducing the Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals' (ASCIP) Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee, ASCIP 2022 Education Conference and Expo, Kansas City, MO.
- 2/2020 Korupolu K, **Ciammaichella E**, Mollett P, Uhlig-Reche H, Achilike. Association Between Use of Higher Tidal Volume and Clinical Outcomes Among Acute Spinal Cord Injury: A Retrospective Cohort Study. Poster presented at International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine World Congress in Orlando, Florida EAJPMR Volume 99, Number 3 (Supp), p a23-24, March 2020, doi: 10.1097/PHM.0000000000001387.
- 2/2019 **Ciammaichella E**, Arias-Berrios J, Thomas J. Inherent Bias Places Challenges on Conventional Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation with Patient with Premorbid Brain Injury. A Case Report. AJPMR Volume 98, Issue 3, p a57. March 2019, doi: 10.1097/PHM.0000000000001114.
- 9/2018 **Ciammaichella E**, Tallavajhula S, Korupolu R. Management of Autonomic Dysreflexia Triggered Seizures. Presented at the ASCIP 2018 Educational Conference and Expo.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- 1/2026 Speaker. (anticipated) 5th Annual Cancer Rehabilitation Conference. "Unique Aspects of Rehabilitation for Patients with Spinal Cord Tumors."
- 9/2025 Speaker with Berliner J, Rose J, Snider B. 2025 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Urinary Tract Infections After SCI: Advocating for Optimal Evaluation, Management, and Prevention."
- 9/2025 Speaker with Bryden A, Chesney A, Worobey L. 2025 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Redefining Rehabilitation: Maximizing Independence and Community Participation Across the Continuum."
- 9/2025 Speaker with Berliner J, Draganich C, Toaston T. 2025 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Insert Me: The Change Agent in the SCI/D Space."
- 9/2025 Speaker with Bennewith A, Chesney A, David M, Emerick A, Lee V, Perkins B, Skelton F. 2025 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Navigating the Healthcare Maze: Optimizing Care for Individuals with SCI/D."
- 5/2025 Invited speaker. Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center PM&R Grand Rounds. "Clinician's Liability for Recommending Cannabinoids."
- 5/2025 Invited speaker. University of Nevada Reno Family Medicine Didactics. "Approach to Disability."
- 2/2025 Invited speaker. American College of Legal Medicine 65th Annual Conference. "Ableism and Limited Autonomy: Reframing Quality of Life Decisions before Making End-of-Life Decisions."



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- 9/2024 Speaker with Hough S, Hicks T, Harfenist S, Jaramillo J, Tam K, Thomas F, Walker. 2024 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Critical Element for Effective Artificial Intelligence in SCI Healthcare: IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access)."
- 9/2024 Speaker with Hough S, Hicks T, Harfenist S, Jaramillo J, Tam K, Thomas F, Walker. 2024 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Exploring Workplace Perspectives: The IDEA Survey on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access)."
- 9/2024 Speaker with Hough S, Hicks T, Harfenist S, Jaramillo J, Tam K, Thomas F, Walker. 2024 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "SCI and Firearm Injury: seeking a deeper understanding of health inequities around firearm related trauma."
- 3/2024 Invited speaker. American College of Legal Medicine 64th Annual Conference. "Federal and State Legislative Updates."
- 10/2023 Invited speaker. 2023 A Day with the Judges Conference (National Mid-Year ACLM and ABLM Conference). "Clinician's Liability for Recommending Cannabinoids."
- 9/2023 Speaker with Hough S, Hicks T, Harfenist S, Jaramillo J, Tam K, Thomas F, Walker J. 2023 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Developing A Comprehensive Model of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access: Beyond Talking and Surveys."
- 9/2023 Speaker with Hough S, Hicks T, Harfenist S, Jaramillo J, Tam K, Thomas F, Walker J. 2023 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Legal, Moral, and Ethical Considerations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990."
- 9/2021 Speaker with Berliner J, Hough S, Hulse K. 2021 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Education Conference. "Advocating for Disability Rights, A New I.D.E.A. (Inclusivity, Diversity, Education, and Access)."
- 9/2020 Speaker with Gutierrez C. 2020 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professional Virtual Educational Conference. "Unique Aspects of Rehabilitation for Patients with Spinal Cord Tumors."
- 9/2019 Speaker with Bosques G. 2019 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals Educational Conference and Expo in Nashville, TN. "Pediatric Onset Spinal Cord Injury for the Adult Rehabilitation Team." Abstract published at The Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine, 42:5, 717-718, DOI: 10.1080/10790268.2019.1644869
- 6/2019 Speaker. Academic Physicians Section of the American Medical Association Annual Meeting 2019 in Chicago, IL. "Connecting the dots: Unprofessional behavior, mistreatment, impairment, and their impact on burnout on education and practice."
- 3/2019 Speaker. Webinar for the American Medical Association. "AMA Ambassadors: Harnessing Your Power as a Resident / Fellow"
- 10/2017 Speaker. American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Annual Assembly in Denver, CO. "Symposium Mentoring Medical Students Applying for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency."
- 2/2013 Orr Award Invited Speaker. American College of Legal Medicine Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV. "Are Claims of Isolated DNA Eligible Subject Matter Under Section 101 of the Patent Act or Is It Simply A Cloak to Patent A Human Gene?"



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RECOGNITION

Awards

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| 2025 | President's Award, American College of Legal Medicine |
| 2019 | UT Houston finalist to the Annual Texas PM&R Society Ursula Krusen Meeting. "Retrospective Study of Tidal Volume and Ventilator Weaning in Acute Cervical Spinal Cord Injury Patients." |
| 2017 | First Place Presenter of William H. Donovan Critical Review of Literature. "Osteopathic Manipulation for the Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome: A Critical Review of the Literature." |
| 2013 | First Place Orr Award Writing Competition from the American College of Legal Medicine. "Are Claims of Isolated DNA Eligible Subject Matter Under Section 101 of the Patent Act or Is It Simply A Cloak to Patent A Human Gene?" |
| 2013 | Student Rising Star Award from Clark County Medical Society, NV |
| 2012 | Human Touch Student Leadership Scholarship from the American Osteopathic Foundation |
| 2012 | Initiated into Sigma Sigma Phi Honor Society, Touro University Nevada Chapter |