



## Colorado Center for Behavioral Medicine

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Brent Van Dorsten, PhD

President, Colorado Center for Behavioral Medicine; Past President, Colorado Pain Society

Dr. Brent Van Dorsten is a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in health and pain psychology and behavioral medicine assessment and treatment at the Colorado Center for Behavioral Medicine. At the CCBM, Dr. Van Dorsten provides cognitive-behavioral assessments and treatments to a diverse patient population referred by physician specialists in Primary Care, Surgery, Anesthesiology/Pain Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Orthopedic Spine, Occupational Medicine, and Neurology among others. This clinical service includes assessment, psychological and neuropsychological testing, and CBT treatment for pain and functional limitations, physical injury and delayed recovery in worker's compensation, assisting physicians in the management of patients on long-term opioids, mild traumatic brain injury/concussion, and pre-surgical behavioral assessments for patients considered for spine surgeries and implantable spinal cord stimulation.

Prior to opening the Colorado Center for Behavioral Medicine in 2012, Dr. Van Dorsten was an Associate Professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Departments of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Orthopedics Spine Center, and Anesthesiology Pain Medicine for over 23 years. He is certified with a variety of national credentialing services including the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology and is a Life Fellow of both the Society of Behavioral Medicine and the American College of Forensic Examiners. He currently holds or has recently held Executive Board/committee positions with the American Psychological Association, Colorado Pain Society, Society of Behavioral Medicine, Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers, and the American Board of Psychology Specialties. Dr. Van Dorsten is the past president of the Colorado Pain Society and remains on the Board of Directors for this Society. Dr. Van Dorsten was the founder and Director of the Behavioral Medicine Fellowship Program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Anesthesiology Pain, and is a former Co-Director of the Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Program. He is broadly experienced in forensic psychology as it relates to personal injury litigation and delayed recovery and has been admitted in both state and federal courts as an expert witness in pain and rehabilitation psychology, and psychosocial and behavioral factors affecting recovery from personal injury. Dr. Van Dorsten has published numbers of articles and book chapters on pain, diabetes, and traumatic medical injury, and his book [Forensic Psychology: From Classroom to Courtroom](#) is popular in the forensic psychology and forensic medicine arenas.

Dr. Van Dorsten is an experienced research investigator on several clinical pain investigations and is currently a behavioral investigator on a multi-year, multi-center PQORI grant with Stanford University to investigate the efficacy of cognitive-behavioral treatment in improving function of patients with pain who voluntarily wish to decrease or discontinue intake of opioid pain medications. Previously, Dr. Van Dorsten served as the Chair of the Behavioral Investigator core for a National Institutes of Health multi-year, multi-center investigation involving intensive lifestyle interventions in adults with overweight/obesity, Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular



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disease. Dr. Van Dorsten has presented dozens of national/international presentations regarding the application of behavioral sciences in medicine and rehabilitation, behavioral pain management, patient selection for invasive medical procedures, psychometric testing of medical patients, managing patients on long-term opioid medications, implementing behavioral care in medical services, factors affecting delayed recovery and return to work, traumatic medical injury, concussion and mild traumatic brain injury, chronic illness, and forensic psychology.