

OCCUPATIONAL TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY FACT SHEET

What is a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)?

Traumatic brain injury (TBI), a form of acquired brain injury, occurs when a sudden trauma causes damage to the brain. TBI can result when the head suddenly and violently hits an object, or when an object pierces the skull and enters brain tissue. Symptoms of a TBI can be mild, moderate, or severe, depending on the extent of the damage to the brain.

LEADING CAUSES OF OCCUPATIONAL TBI FATALITIES



Motor Vehicle
Crashes

31%



Falls

29%



Assaults and
Violent Acts

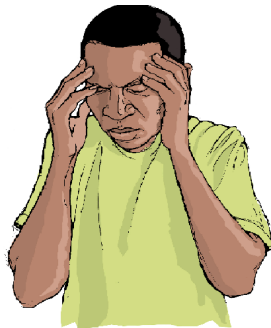
20%



Contact with
Objects/
Equipment

18%

Severity and Symptoms of TBI



MILD

Headaches, sensitivity to light, vomiting/nausea, or confusion

MODERATE

Loss of coordination, double vision, diminished senses, or change in appetite.

SEVERE

Prolonged loss of consciousness, convulsions or seizures, or clear fluid draining from nose/ears.

TREATMENT OF TBI



Treatment will depend on the severity of the TBI. Mild TBIs can often be treated with plenty of rest and a gradual return to normal activity. Moderate and severe TBIs may include emergency surgery to relieve pressure in the skull or remove clots that may form. Medications to treat seizures or depression may also be prescribed. Long-term treatment of severe TBIs may include rehabilitation therapies to build physical strength or improve speech that might have been affected.