

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) A Quick Guide



What is TBI?

TBI, or Traumatic Brain Injury, happens when someone experiences a sudden blow or jolt to the head that disrupts normal brain function. It can range from mild, like a concussion, to severe.

TBIs can affect thinking, emotions, and physical abilities both short-term and long-term. Symptoms vary depending on the injury's severity and where it occurred in the brain.

Prevalence of

You are not alone in your struggle with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).



Each year in California, approximately 61,000 individuals like you sustain a TBI.

This statistic emphasizes that your experience is part of a larger community facing similar challenges.

Leading Causes The primary causes of TBIs include:



Motor vehicle accidents



Sports-related injuries



Slip & Falls



Assaults

Demographic Trends TBIs can affect people of all backgrounds. However, certain groups may be more vulnerable. Key demographic trends of TBI include:



Nationally, around 60,000 TBIrelated deaths occur each year



Children from birth to 17 years accounted for approximately 4.1% of TBI-related deaths



Males are three times more



Rates of TBI-related deaths were highest among adults aged 75+ years



American Indian, Alaska Native, and non-Hispanic persons had the highest average of TBI-related deaths when compared to other groups.

Health Consequences

Surviving a TBI can lead to a host of consequences for a person's health consequences, including, but not limited to:

- Cognitive impairments, such as memory loss and difficulty concentrating
- Physical disabilities, such as paralysis or weakness
- · Emotional and behavioral changes, including depression, anxiety, and irritability
- Sensory problems, such as vision or hearing loss
- Increased risk of developing neurological conditions like epilepsy

Understanding these health issues can help you and your medical care team develop a personalized treatment plan to get you back to your normal life in no time. However, your journey toward recovery may involve various steps. In California, healthcare related to TBIs includes:



Emergency department visits



Hospitalizations



Rehabilitation services



Long-term care



Psychological, emotional, and mental health support

Financial Impact

The financial impact of TBIs can be significant. In addition to the medical and emotional toll, TBIs can have significant financial costs for victims, including:

- Medical expenses, such as hospital bills, rehabilitation services, and ongoing treatment
- Lost wages due to inability to work or reduced earning capacity
- Expenses for assistive devices, home modifications, and long-term care services
- Legal costs if pursuing compensation for the injury