

Know the *Symptoms* of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI)

Traumatic Brain Injuries Are a Very Real Threat

APPROXIMATELY
50,000¹
Traumatic Brain Injury Deaths Annually in the United States

APPROXIMATELY
80,000–90,000
Long-Term or Permanent Disabilities Annually in the United States



Leading Causes of TBIs (2014)

The number of TBI-related ER visits, hospitalization and deaths increased by 53% between 2004 and 2014.²



- 49% of TBI ER visits of children 0 to 17 years of age were fall related
- 81% of TBI ER visits of adults aged 65 and older were fall related

- 17% of TBI ER visits (all age groups) were due to being struck by or hit against something
- 28% of TBI ER visits for children were due to being struck by or hit against something



- 20% of TBI hospitalizations are attributable to car crashes

- 33% of TBI deaths (leading cause of TBI death) are attributed to self-harm



Mild to Severe

- Traumatic brain injuries can range from mild and moderate to severe and debilitating
- Mild TBIs, also known as “concussions,” are the most common form of TBIs that occur each year



MINOR TBI Symptoms³

- Dazed or disoriented
- Short-term loss of consciousness (*a few seconds to minutes*)
- Temporary headache
- Vomiting or nausea
- Fatigue and drowsiness
- Difficulty sleeping or sleeping more than usual
- Difficulty with speech
- Balance issues or dizziness
- Light or sound sensitivity

SEVERE TBI Symptoms

- Loss of consciousness for longer period (*multiple minutes to hours*)
- A headache that persists and worsens over time
- Persistent nausea or vomiting
- Seizures or convulsions
- Pupil dilation
- Fluid drainage from ears or nose
- Not able to be awakened from sleep
- Numbness or weakness in extremities
- Extreme loss of coordination
- Slurred speech
- Confusion or major memory loss
- Comatose state

Regardless of symptom severity, it's best to consult a physician if you or a loved one have had a fall, been in a car accident, suffered a collision playing sports, been the victim of violence or suffered some other type of head trauma. Even minor symptoms could be indicators of serious injuries.



¹<https://www.aans.org/en/Patients/Neurosurgical-Conditions-and-Treatments/Traumatic-Brain-Injury>

²https://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/get_the_facts.html

³<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/traumatic-brain-injury/symptoms-causes/syc-20378557>