

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER LIBRARY

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POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER Factsheet

August 2021

What is traumatic brain injury?

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is defined as an alteration in brain function, or other evidence of brain pathology, caused by an external force. Brain injury can have severe consequences on physical, cognitive, and affective functioning and may lead to long-lasting limitations in these domains. Studies have demonstrated that both civilian and military patients with TBI of various severity levels can develop PTSD, even when a person cannot recall the details of the traumatic event.

What is the evidence for PTSD in people with a traumatic brain injury?

Moderate quality evidence found the prevalence of PTSD after a TBI was around 24%. Rates were higher in males than females, in samples with TBI than other physical injuries, in military samples exposed to a blast than civilians exposed to a motor vehicle accident, and in studies from the USA than other countries. There have been no differences found in the rates of PTSD in people with a mild versus moderate-severe TBI



NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) is one of the largest independent medical and clinical research institutes in Australia and an international leader in neurological research.

Diseases of the brain and nervous system pose the greatest health, economic and social burden of any disease group because they are chronic, debilitating and have no known cures.

Medical research is the cornerstone of efforts to advance the health and wellbeing of families and the community. Our dedicated scientists are focussed on transforming their research into significant and practical benefits for all patients.

While we hope you find this information useful, it is always important to discuss any questions about PTSD and its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.

For more information see the technical table

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

We are able to make significant advances due to the generosity of countless people. Your donation allows us to continue to work towards transforming lives. For information on how you can support our research, phone 1300 888 019 or make a secure donation at neura.edu.au/donate