## Tips &

# **SUGGESTIONS**

People with brain injuries tend to have memory difficulties and may persist on a topic and need redirection. They may also become easily frustrated, agitated or angry. Some helpful tips for families are:

- Become educated about brain injury & ways to help your loved one.
- Communicate regularly with the doctors, nurses, therapists, and your loved one.
- Consistency is important. Try to reduce confusion in his/her surroundings.
- Talk openly about his/her gains and abilities.
- Model calm and controlled behavior yourself
- Be patient give them extra time to respond.
- Expect the unexpected.



# Questions? CONTACT US NOW



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# ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY

Support, Education & Prevention



## What is A CONCUSSION?

A blow to jolt to the head can disrupt the normal function of the brain. Doctors often call this type of brain injury a "concussion". Doctors may describe these injuries as "mild" because concussions are usually not life threatening. Even so, the effects of a concussion can be serious. You can have a brain injury without losing consciousness.

It is important to take what may seem like a bump on the head seriously. Getting diagnosed with a concussion as early as possible and seeking rehabilitation, if necessary, is crucial. In most cases, there are personal injury remedies to get the quality of care you're entitled to and legal outcome you deserve.

## **ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY**

Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) are the result of injury to the brain, not of a degenerative or congenital nature. Caused by an external force, resulting in neurobiological damage that can produce lifelong deficits. Some people may lose

their ability to walk or talk, while others may have have significant impairments that are unnoticeable to the casual observer.

These impairments can be temporary or permanent and can cause partial or total functional disability or psychological maladjustment.

It is common in auto accidents, sports injuries, slips and falls, or even more traumatic accidents for bodily injury to make a head injury seem so minor that neither doctor nor patient recognize it has occurred.

## What is

# **REHABILITATION?**

Rehabilitation provides comprensive services to help the patient reach their optimal functional capacity. Rehabilitation is a team concept which includes services of the physicians as well as physical, occupational, and speech therapists, and neuropsychologists.

In addition to the care that professionals provide, the most important members of the treatment team are the patient and the patient's family.

#### What Can

# THE FAMILY EXPECT?

Every brain injury is different. When someone close to you has a brain injury, it can be hard to know how best to help. If you notice that your family member or friend has symptoms of a brain injury that are getting worse, talk to them an dtheir healthcare professional abbut getting help.

A brain injury can change the family's life, as well. Support and guidance may help the family deal with the coming changes.

## What Are The **SYMPTOMS?**

### **PHYSICAL**

- Seizures
- Dizziness
- Headaches
- Weakness/Fatigue

#### SENSORY-MOTOR

- Speech
- Lack fo Coordination
- Loss of Balance
   Light Sensitivity
- Noise Sensitivity

### **COGNITIVE**

- Lack of Empathy
   Impaired Reasoning
- Distractability
- Impaired Memory
- Difficulty Adjusting to Change

### SOCIAL-PERSONALITY

- Agitation
- Emotional Instability
- Poor Judgement Inappropriate Behavior
- Agression
- Substance Abuse
- Depression
- Anxiety

## **HEAD INJURY**

## **TYPES OF TRAUMA**

- Motor Vehicle Collisions
- Slips & Falls
- Environmental Toxins
- Sports Related Events
- Occupational Trauma
- Oxygen Deficiency
- Shaken Baby Syndrome

## TYPES OF INJURY

- Force Trauma
- Concussive Force Trauma
- Stroke Injury
- Whip-Lash Injury
- Encephalopathy