

What is Traumatic Brain Injury?

by Traumatic Brain Injury Attorneys on 05/19/10 at 10:43 am

<u>Traumatic Brain Injury</u>, also coined **TBI** is a sudden, oftentimes, <u>accidental intense protected</u> by the skull, there are many different kinds of trauma, both external and internal that could cause permanent damage or loss of life.

Unlike skin or other major organs in the body, the brain cells do not regenerate, and this means once damaged, the other brains cells have to compensate through therapy which will teach it new skills. For example, if the **TBI** affected the speech skills, through speech therapy, a person can learn how to pronounce words again.

In the figures released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or CDC, **TBI** affects more than 1.5 million Americans, with over 50,000 deaths and 85,000 with permanent injuries. These figures are not even that accurate since it does not take into account cases that were not treated in a hospital, but in a doctor's clinic.

Aside from medical problems like a tumor in or around the brain, stroke or heart attack, you can also get **TBI** from a gunshot wound to the brain. Just like any other kind of injury, it could be mild like a grazing wound, moderate with some damage, or very severe which results in death. The symptoms can be the same in each case although the symptoms will continue to grow worse over time if the damage is moderate to severe.

For example, mild symptoms would be something like blurred vision, losing consciousness, or unexplained dizziness. For moderate to severe damage, these symptoms would get worse like blurred vision turning into dilated pupils, agitation and confusion; more bouts of lose of consciousness; and the dizziness starts to include vomiting, convulsions, and numbness in your arms and legs.

Since you cannot repair damaged brain cells, the best doctors can do is to stop it from getting worse through sufficient oxygen to the brain, continuous monitoring of blood flow, maintaining the right blood pressure, and maybe even surgery. If the injury was caused by a foreign object like a bullet or bone fragments, a CTC scan must be done to determine the extent of the damage. Most TBI caused by a bullet is fatal with a very minimal chance of recovery.

Any treatment program for <u>Traumatic Brain Injury</u> should include one or a combination of the following: physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, psychiatric consultation, and group social therapy.

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