

Traumatic Brain Injury - Causes

Traumatic brain injury is most commonly caused by car accidents, but can also be the result of violence, falls, medical mistakes, or sports injury.

- Car accidents account for over 50% of all traumatic brain injuries.
- Falls are the major cause of brain injuries in older people.
- Violent acts, which include Shaken Baby Syndrome, Family Violence and Violence with Fire-arms, is one of leading causes of traumatic brain injury.
- Sports and recreation injuries account for 10% of all traumatic brain injuries.

For More Information:

If you would like more information on becoming a member of the Traumatic Brain Injury Consortium or if you would like individual assistance please call the Guam Legal Services Corporation Disability Law Center at:

922-4571-4

TDD/TTY: 477-7356

This brochure is supported in part by Project No. 1X82MC05042-01-00 from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. The contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of DHHS. This is in the public domain; please duplicate and distribute widely.

Other Guam Legal Services Corporation Programs

- Legal Services Corporation (for Individuals with low income)
- Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program, Office on Violence Against Women
- Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with developmental Disability (PADD)
- Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)
- Protection & Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR)
- Protection & Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT)
- Protection & Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)
- Protection & Advocacy for Voting Accessibility (PAVA)

Guam Legal Services Corporation

113 Bradley Place
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Tel. (671)477-9811/2

Fax.(671)477-1320

TDD/TTY. (671)477-3416

Email:

information@guamlegalservices.com



**Transportation safety is always
Important in preventing
TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY
(TBI)**

**Take the proper precautions to
ensure your safety.**



Guam Legal Services
Corporation (GLSC)
Disability Law Center

“The Protection and Advocacy System of Guam”

Protection & Advocacy Program

Guam Legal Services Corporation (GLSC) was chartered in 1979 and began servicing the low income community of Guam in 1981. Since then, GLSC has expanded its services to those in the dawn of life, the children; those in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those in the shadows of life, the low income, the abused, the neglected and the disabled. In 1999, GLSC became the designated Protection and Advocacy Office for Guam.

As such, GLSC Disability Law Center (DLC) is Guam's Protection and Advocacy agency mandated to promote and protect the legal and human rights of individuals with physical and/or mental disability.

In October 2000, the Children's Health Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-310) established a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) P&A program. GLSC DLC applied for and was funded to begin this program in Fiscal Year 2003.

TBI AND TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

- The use of seat belts are 57% effective in preventing traumatic and fetal brain injuries. The safest and most effective safety protection for vehicle passengers is to use a combination of air bags with a shoulder/lap seat belt. Always use the appropriate child seats according to your child's weight and height.
- Guam law states that children under the age of 2 years must be secured by a child passenger restraint system, which meets federal motor vehicle safety standards. It further states that children between the ages of 2-12 years, must be secured by either a child restraint system or by approval safety belts or harness.
- More than 80% of all motorcycle crashes result in injury or death to the motorcyclist. Brain injury is the leading cause of death in motorcycle accidents. The use of a helmet when riding a motorcycle can prevent or greatly reduce the severity of brain injuries.

- Guam law states that it is unlawful for any person under the age of 18 years to drive or be carried on a motorcycle unless they are wearing a safety helmet of a type approved by the Department of Revenue and Taxation.

What is Traumatic Brain Injury?

A traumatic brain injury is a head injury that results in damage to the brain. There are two types of head injuries that can lead to damage within the brain: closed head injuries and penetrating head injuries.

- **Closed Head Injury** - Occurs when the head is suddenly stopped while in motion and the brain hits the inside of the skull. This happens, for example, when the head hits the windshield during an auto accident. A closed head injury can also occur without external trauma to the head, as occurs when the brain moves forward and back during whiplash.
- **Penetrating Head Injury** - Occurs when an object, like a bullet, penetrates the skull.