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Traumatic Brain Injury: Translation from Animal Models and Genetics to Improving Outcomes

Susanne MuehlSchlegel
University of Massachusetts Medical School

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Traumatic Brain Injury
Translation from Animal Models and Genetics to Improving Outcomes

Susanne Muehlschlegel, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Neurocritical Care
UMASS Depts. Of Neurology, Anesthesia/Critical Care and Surgery

Nils Henninger, MD
Assistant Professor of Neurology
UMASS Dept. Of Neurology

Raphael Carandang, MD
Assistant Professor of Neurocritical Care
UMASS Depts. Of Neurology and Surgery

Constance Moore, PhD
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
UMASS Center for Comparative Neuroimaging
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is due to a sudden forceful, mechanical injury to the brain.

TBI Type
- Blunt/Closed
- Penetrating
  - Gun Shot Wounds
  - Shrapnel
The severity of TBI is determined by the Glasgow Coma Scale on presentation.

The Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Scale Responses</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eye opening</td>
<td>Spontaneous</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To voice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To pain</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal response</td>
<td>Oriented</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Confused conversation</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Words (inappropriate)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sounds (incomprehensible)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best motor response</td>
<td>Obeys commands</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Localizes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Withdraws</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flexion Posture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extension Posture</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3 - 15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jennett and Bond Lancet 1975
Traumatic Brain Injury is a real public health problem in the U.S. (and worldwide).

Appr. 1.7 million Americans sustain a TBI annually

- All severities, predominantly mild
- All severities, predominantly moderate-severe
- All moderate-severe

- 25% of these are moderate-severe TBI.

From: http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/statistics.html
Falls and motor vehicle accidents are the most common causes of adult TBI.

- Falls are the leading cause of TBI
- Fall-related TBIs older adults aged ≥75 years is increasing

Among all age groups, motor vehicle crashes and traffic-related incidents result in the largest % TBI-related deaths (31.8%).
Long-term effects and poor outcomes require research to improve outcomes and develop new therapies.

Cognition
- Memory
- Reasoning

Language
- Communication
- Understanding
- Expression

Emotion
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Personality changes
- Aggression
- Social inappropriateness

Direct medical costs and indirect costs (lost productivity) of TBI:
~ $76.5 billion in the U.S. in 2010

From: http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/statistics.html