

Brochures to Order or Print from the Website

- ABIN-PA Services
- Brain Injury Basics
- Building New Lives
- Changes in Your Loved One
- Children Require Rehabilitation
- Criminal Justice
- Customer Service
- Definitions
- Discharge Planning
- Domestic Violence
- Everybody Knows Somebody
- Families
- Financial Planning
- Healing Strategies
- Law Officers: Info & Strategies
- Medication Record
- Partnering with Professionals
- Planning Your Recovery
- Professionals You May Meet
- Public Benefits
- Rehabilitation
- Seniors
- Sports
- Suicide Prevention
- Telephone Book
- Veterans

Brain Injury Resources

- ABIN-PA InfoLine 800-516-8052
www.abin-pa.org
- Area Agency on Aging (phone book)
- BIAA Help Line 800-444-6443
www.biausa.org
- BIAPA Resource Line 866-635-7097
- Brain Injury Help Line 866-412-4755
(PA DOH free literature, books)
- CHIP 484-477-2948
(Children's Health Insurance Program)
- Disability RightsNetwork
(SpEd,TBI,SS) 800-692-7443
- Elks Nurses (PA) 814-781-7860
(care plan if disabled before 22)
- Head Injury Program 717-772-2762
(1 year of rehab, \$100,000 max)
- Health Law Project 800-274-3258
(help with public benefits)
- Legal Aid (PA) 800-322-7572
- Meals on Wheels www.mealcall.org
- Medicaid Waivers 877-550-4227
(Help at home, COMMCARE)
- Medical Assistance 866-542-3015
(some adults, all disabled children)
- Medicare Coverage 800-633-4227
(24/7 line, A & B in-home services)
- Medicare Denials 800-322-1914
- Social Security 800-772-1213
(survivors, disability, low income)
- Special Ed Consult Line 800-879-2301
- Special Needs Help 800-521-6860
(Medicaid rehab for children)
- Vocational Rehab www.dli.state.pa.us

BRAIN INJURY BASICS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STAFF



ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY
NETWORK OF PENNSYLVANIA
Office: 1-215-699-2139
Messages: 1-800-516-8052
Fax: 1-215-699-5139
Email: info@abin-pa.org
Website: www.abin-pa.org

Domestic abuse often causes brain injury

Research indicates 66% of those who were abused have had a concussion or brain injury. This injury may interfere with decisions, remembering, making plans or getting help.

Counselors benefit from special training to help the person who is impaired by a brain injury.

Many domestic abusers had a prior brain injury.

One study indicated that 48% of batterers but only 5.9% of the general population had a prior history of concussion or brain injury. This prior injury should guide service delivery to batterers.

Long term disability up after "second hit"

Having a second impact before the first injury to the brain has healed will greatly increase the risk of permanent deficits and may even cause death. Medical attention for each brain injury is essential. Some authorities recommend assuring three months of repair with no risk.

Signs of brain injury

Dazed or stunned. Confused. Unsure of current situation. Clumsy motion. Answers slowly. Different behavior or personality change. May forget events before, during and/or after the injury.

Complaints after injury

Headache. Nausea. Balance problems or dizziness. Double or fuzzy vision. Sensitive to light or noise. Feeling sluggish. Change in sleep pattern. Concentration difficult. Memory problems. Loss of taste or smell.

Long term effects...

COGNITIVE: memory, speed, word finding, concentration, judgment, spatial awareness, organization, planning, multi-tasking, reasoning, predicting, reacting, processing, attention.

PHYSICAL: seizures, balance, gait, spasticity, weakness, paralysis, vision, hearing, speech, headache, fatigue, smell, taste, swallowing, nausea, salt balance, appetite, thirst.

BEHAVIORAL: anxiety, depression, mood swings, impulsivity, agitation, egocentricity, unaware of others, apathy, inertia, perseveration, unable to multi-task, frustration.

Create an action plan

Rule out bleeding in the brain, a skull fracture, spinal fractures, etc.

Prepare a safety plan to prevent a "second hit". This plan must be one that the brain injury survivor can carry out.

Arrange funding for medical care and brain injury rehabilitation under health insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, the Pennsylvania Head Injury Program, the COMMCARE Waiver, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, or Victims' Services.

PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence

6400 Flank Drive, Suite 1300,
Harrisburg PA 17112

Phone: 1-800-932-4632

TTY: 1-800-553-2508

FAX: 1-717-671-8149

LEGAL OFFICE: 1-888-235-3425

TTY: 1-800-553-2508

FAX: 1-717-671-5542

NATIONAL: 1-800-537-2238

TTY: 1-800-553-2508

FAX: 1-717-545-9456

Services by County:
www.pcadv.org/Find-Help/Domestic-Violence-Services-By-County.asp