

## Brain Injury: Concussion - Mild (MBI)-Traumatic (TBI)

## Did you Know...?

(Some information from the Brain Injury Association of America)

• Brain injuries are the leading cause of death and disability among children, teenagers and young adults.

• There are currently 5.3 million Americans living with a disability, as a result of traumatic brain injury (TBI).

- 1.5 million Americans will sustain a TBI each year.
- 50 thousand people will die as a result of their TBI each year.
- 80 thousand people will experience the onset of long term disability following TBI.

• Each year more people will sustain a traumatic brain injury than will be diagnosed with breast cancer, HIV/AIDS, spinal cord injury or multiple sclerosis combined.

Brain injury can have a dramatic impact upon neurodevelopment. The more serious the injury, the more serious the impact upon function. Even concussion – "more than just a bump on the head" – can result in significant impact upon functioning.

Neuropsychological evaluation following brain injury assesses major functions of learning/development : attention, perception, memory, executive function, speech/language, sensory – motor, and mood functions. Early assessment can aid in developing treatment plans and follow-up care, (home, school, work...) promoting one's quality of life.

Neurodevelopmental therapy/brain training programs following acute stages of injury, utilizes neuroscience techniques toward developing the functions of attention, perception, memory, executive function, speech/language, sensory motor, and mood. Family support, interdisciplinary communication and educational – work – social advocacy are essential.

Please note: The importance of protective gear regarding athletic activities is critical.