



TBI REMAINS THE SILENT EPIDEMIC OF OLDER ADULTS

AGENDA



My Journey with TBI and Chronic Disability

About the National Concussion Management Center

Unmet Needs in Geriatric TBI

Recommendations



MY JOURNEY WITH TBI AND CHRONIC DISABILITY





ABOUT THE NATIONAL MANAGEMENT CONCUSSION CENTER

WHO WE ARE

501(c)3 committed to enabling everyone to prevent, recognize, and treat concussion and other brain injuries.

MISSION

Advocate for a common understanding of best practices in concussion management and care throughout the United States.

SERVICES

Online platform serves as a clearinghouse directing users to national and regional resources on care programs, concussion management policy, injury prevention guidelines, and provider directories.





OUR PERSPECTIVES ON UNMET RESEARCH NEEDS

- **Prevention:** With the growing population of older adults in the United States and globally, strategies that reduce the risk of becoming injured need to be developed.
- **Diagnosis:** and diagnostic tools and treatments that may benefit this group need to be explored.
- **Prognosis:** Prognostic tools for risk stratification of TBI patients are limited in the early stages of injury in the emergency setting for TBI.
- **Management:** Early and comprehensive management of our seniors following a mild TBI can provide them with the best possible quality of life.
- **TBI across the lifespan:** Older adults with a TBI from earlier in life, warrant a focused approach to scientific study and treatment that is informed by, yet distinct from, that of TBI in disparate populations



WHEN ENTERING A ROOM WITH AN OLDER ADULT WITH TBI

1. Consider harsh lights and loud noise.
2. Handshakes.
3. Eye contact.
4. Listen, repeat, respond.
5. When listening, address distress
6. Give breaks.
7. Write it down.
8. Before ending, check for understanding.





CLOSING THOUGHTS

OLDER ADULTS SHOULD NOT BE LEFT BEHIND

- People matter! From a child who takes their first breathe to an older adult who takes their last breath.
- Older adults with TBI deserve the same advocacy and focused study as sports, military-related, and pediatric TBI.
- As individualized medicine and precision medicine continue to be heralded as the path forward, as “one-size-fits-all” approach to the conceptualization, diagnosis, and management of TBI in older adults will be viewed as increasingly antiquated and unacceptable.





THANK YOU

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National Concussion Management Center

Concussionsafety.org

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