



Resources for the DCoE January 2016 Traumatic Brain Injury Webinar

Do Head Injuries Cause Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy?

The [Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center's Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy Information Paper](#) summarizes the available peer-reviewed scientific literature regarding the epidemiology, risk factors, clinical manifestations, pathology of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) and relevant emerging neuroimaging methods. Specific gaps in the understanding of the disease are identified that, if addressed, could inform the most appropriate prevention recommendations and allow clinicians to more effectively diagnose, manage and treat CTE.

In 2016, DVBIC will publish the results of its Congressionally-mandated Study of Cognitive Rehabilitation Effectiveness (SCORE) for Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), a three-year randomized controlled trial that studied the efficacy of four types of cognitive rehabilitation interventions. The [SCORE Study Manual](#) provides detailed methodology so that other researchers may replicate or extend the research in other settings, thereby expanding the body of knowledge and evidence in an area of research.

The Department of Defense established the [Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine's Brain Tissue Repository](#) to advance TBI research. Comparing injured and uninjured brain tissue will allow scientists and physicians to learn ways to prevent and possibly treat the effects of this injury.

The [Veterans Affairs-Boston University-Concussion Legacy Foundation Brain Bank](#) collects and studies post-mortem human brain and spinal cord tissue to better understand the effects of trauma on the human nervous system. Family members of deceased athletes may donate their loved one's brain and spinal cord to be examined neuropathologically for evidence of CTE or other disorders of the central nervous system. The Brain Bank interviews families for athletic and concussion history, educational and occupational history, medical history and history of cognitive, behavioral and mood symptoms.

Resources

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 8. Stein, T. D., Alvarez, V. E., & McKee, A. C. (2014). [Chronic traumatic encephalopathy: A spectrum of neuropathological changes following repetitive brain trauma in athletes and military personnel](#). *Alzheimer's Research & Therapy*, 6(1), 4. doi: 10.1186/alzrt234