

North Dakota Brain Injury Network

BRAIN INJURY & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Brain injuries are often referred to as the “silent epidemic” because symptoms are not always immediately evident



DRUG OVERDOSE CAN CAUSE BRAIN INJURY

A drug overdose causes an individual to receive a lack of oxygen to the brain, which is referred to as a hypoxic brain injury. Damage can occur within minutes of an overdose.

DO YOU KNOW HOW COMMON BRAIN INJURIES ARE AMONG PEOPLE RECEIVING TREATMENT?

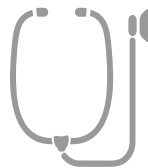
72%

Percentage of individuals in dual treatment for substance abuse and severe mental illness reported a history of at least one TBI

20%

Approximate percentage of individuals that begin using substances after an initial brain injury

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT THIS?



TREATMENT PROFESSIONALS NEED TO BE AWARE OF A HISTORY OF BRAIN INJURY IN INDIVIDUALS

It is important to screen for brain injury upon intake and coordinate an effective treatment plan with a multidisciplinary team of providers that have experience and knowledge about brain injury



WE CAN HELP AT NDBIN

We can help locate providers, provide technical assistance for individuals you serve, connect individuals and families to resources, and much more



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