

ABC's of Brain Injury



A – **Anterograde Amnesia** is the inability to consolidate information about ongoing events; difficulty with new learning.

B – **Behavioral** changes after brain injury can include; irritability, mood swings, depression, and anxiety.

C – **Card** games can help regain memory and the NDBIN playing cards have fun facts about brain injury.

D – **Diffuse brain injury** is injury to cells in many areas of the brain rather than in one specific location.

E – Education & Employment Returning to school or work after brain injury can be difficult but accommodations and assistance can help.

F – **Fatigue** is the most common complaint after brain injury. Living with a brain injury requires extra energy.

G – **Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)** is the most common tool to measure the level of consciousness and severity of brain injury.

H – Hearing loss can result from damage to the ear structure or in the way sound is processed in the brain known as CAPD (Central Auditory Processing Disorder).

I – **Impulse control** can be a result of damage to the brain, specifically in the frontal lobe.

J – **Judgement** can be impacted by BI, impairing the ability to know the dangers of certain activities and to make the right decisions.

K – **Knowledge** about brain injury is important for the survivor as well as family, friends, and caregivers and can provide understanding of what brain injury is and how to cope.

L – The brain is divided into four separate **lobes** that work together as the brain's control center.

M – **Music therapy** can help with cognitive, sensory, and motor dysfunction.

N – **Neuroplasticity** is the brains ability to adapt and change.

O – **Optometrists** exam, diagnose, and treat eye and vision problems.

P – **Patience** is important when recovering from a brain injury and working with brain injury survivors.

Q – **Quality** of life is a person's over all well-being and enjoyment of life.

R – **Rehabilitation** after brain injury takes time and is often a lifelong process.

S – **Speech-language pathologists** can diagnose and treat memory, cognition, and language difficulties after brain injury.

T – **Types** of brain injury-There are three types of brain injury: mild, moderate, and severe.

U – Many brain injuries go **unreported** because medical attention is not sought. Often concussions or mild TBI's go unreported.

V – **Vocational rehabilitation** can assists with school expenses, gaining, and retaining employment, and help advocate for employment related supports.

W – Wernicke's aphasia is difficulty comprehending speech, their speech is fluent but empty. Wernicke's area is located inside the temporal lobe.

X – **X-rays** can only show skull fractures after a brain injury, a CT scan is needed for showing bleeding or swelling of the brain.

Y – **Yoga** can help strengthen the connection between our mind and body and has been shown to have psychosocial, cognitive, and physical benefits after brain injury.

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