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- FAMILY DOCTOR
  - 25 Years Indian Health Service
  - Also Trained in Epidemiology
  - Working on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in healthcare setting 15+ years
  - No special training in TBI













- Safety
- Autonomy
- Individual Respect
- Cultural Competency





















#### Intimate Partner Violence =

- *Pattern* of assaultive and coercive behaviors
- Physical, sexual, and psychological and economic
- That *adults or adolescents* use against their intimate partners or former partners.













\*DOJ 2007



#### Nonfatal IPV Victims: Females > Males\*

- On average between 2001 and 2005
- 22% of nonfatal violent victimizations against females age 12 or older
- 4% of nonfatal violent victimizations against males age 12 or older.













#### Homicides by Intimate Partner



- 15% of homicides of males
  - Self-defence?

DOJ 2007















#### Patient Barriers

- Fear
  - Of Violence
  - Losing custody
  - Homelessness
  - Losing insurance

#### Faith

- Finances
- Family
- Father
- Fluency
- Fondness
- Further victimblaming
- Failure

































#### Traumatic Brain Injury Most research is on

- Veterans
- High School and College athletes
- Disagreement on specific definitions and terms

















- Few Studies of HEAD INJURY in IPV VICTIMS
- (More research on Brain Injury in Perpetrators!)















#### Definitions and Abbreviations

- Functional = a problem with the way the brain functions
  - -E.g. confusion, depression
- Structural = actual change in brain tissue
  - Can be seen on imaging studies
    - E.g. bleeding into brain















#### Definitions and Abbreviations

- Amnesia = Forgetting
  - Retrograde (I.e. *past*) Amnesia = forgetting events at the time of the injury and for some period *before* the injury
  - Anterograde (I.e. *forward or future*) = forgetting events at the time of the injury and for a while *afterwards*















#### Definitions and Abbreviations

- Acute = immediate
- Graded = stepwise or sequential
- Syndrome = grouping or constellation of Sx's
- Altered Mental Status = change in level of consciousness or alertness















#### SOME DEFINITIONS

- Concussion
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)















#### Glasgow Coma Scale = "GCS"

- Best Eye Response. (4)
- Best Verbal Response. (5)
- Best Motor Response. (6)







- Direct Blow to
  - Head, Face or Neck
  - Body IF "IMPULSIVE" Force Transmitted to Head – Explosion
- Hypoxic Strangulation or Submersion











- Neurologic Impairment
  - Rapid Onset
  - Short Lived
  - Spontaneous Resolution





















## CONCUSSION

- Acute Sx's = Functional
- Not Structural
- Grossly Nl Imaging
- Graded Set of Clinical and Cognitive
  Symptoms
  - W/ or W/out LOC
  - Resolution = Sequential Course















#### CONCUSSION

- Acute Sx's Self-Reported\*
  - HA
  - Nausea +/or Vomiting
  - Dizziness +/or Balance Disturbance
  - Visual Changes
  - "Fogginess"
  - \* What the patient feels rather than what you can see (for the most part)















#### CONCUSSION

- Acute Sx's Observed\*
  - Altered Consciousness
  - Altered Mental Status
  - LOC
  - Anterograde Amnesia
  - Retrograde Amnesia
  - \* You can see it















#### MILD TBI = CONCUSSION

- "Mild" TBI
  - Cause (Discussed)
  - + LOC < or = 20 Minutes
  - +/- Retrograde Amnesia
  - Glasgow Coma Scale13-15
  - No Focal Neurologic Deficits
  - No Seizures
  - Nl Imaging\*
    - \* Not always necessary















#### MILD TBI = CONCUSSION

- Most Common Causes
  - Motor Vehicle Crashes
  - Falls
  - Assaults















#### MILD TBI = CONCUSSION

- "Mild" TBI
  - Cause (Discussed)
  - +/- LOC </= 20 Minutes
  - +/- Retrograde Amnesia
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  - No Focal Neurologic Deficits
  - No Seizures
  - Nl Imaging\*
    - \* Not always necessary















#### MODERATE TBI

- ANY of the Above WITH ....
  - -LOC > 20 Min
  - Focal Deficits
  - Seizures
  - Progressive Sx's















#### "SEVERE" TBI



- Skull is broken
- "You Don't Need to be a Doctor"















# UNDERESTIMATES? PROBABLY!

- 20% of all Brain Injuries w/ LOC Never Reported To MD
- Admission for Mild TBI = Rare
- Do IPV Victims Deny or Minimize Injuries?
- TBI difficult to Dx















#### ESTIMATES

- IPV Injuries Requiring Medical Care:
- Females: 3-21% (Males: 0.4-4%)
- ~1/3 = Head Injuries (Face, Neck or Head)















#### TBI Prevalence in IPV

- ER 30 74%
  - 92 % Mild TBI
  - 10% Mod Severe
- Urban, population-based sample 10% LOC







- ER 27% Strangulation
- Shelter population 68%
- Community Sample 54%























# OHIO STUDY – IPV AND TBI

- 30% Assault w/ LOC
  - 10% unsure of LOC
- Some went to ER, some not
- 15% Hospitalized Due to Head Injuries
- 67% w/ residual problems possibly associated w/ TBI
- 31% "Incidences" of Sx's w/ No LOC

Corrigan, et.al. Am J OBGYN 5/03















# OHIO STUDY – IPV AND TBI

- 67% w/ residual problems possibly associated w/ TBI
  - HA
  - Dizzy
  - Memory Loss
  - Relationship
  - Concentration
  - Work/School Performance
  - Other

Corrigan, et.al. Am J OBGYN 5/03



# OHIO STUDY – IPV AND TBI



# • No Difference in Sx's between LOC and No LOC









Corrigan, et.al. Am J OBGYN 5/03







- Physical
- Cognitive
- Behavioral/Emotional





















# POSTCONCUSSION SYNDROME

- Most commonly (don't need all present)
  - Headaches
  - Dizziness
  - Fatigue
  - Irritability
  - Anxiety
  - Insomnia
  - Loss of consciousness and memory
  - Noise sensitivity

















#### **RISK FACTORS FOR ONGOING DISABILITY**

- Assault

• "Considerable Pre-injury Stress"





# \*









#### WHY DO WOMEN HAVE POORER OUTCOMES? HYPOTHESES

• Rotational\* Forces more likely

Rotational = More Injurious

- Different "Brain Organization"
- Better Verbal Skills
- More injury from behind, possibly
- \* Injury rotates the head, rather than striking from frontto-back or from the side














# **CONCUSSION - Review**

- NEUROLOGIC IMPAIRMENT
  - RAPID ONSET
  - SHORT LIVED
  - SPONTANEOUS RESOLUTION















- When are Clients Capable of making Major Life Decisions?
- (= Recovery Time?)





- Postconcussion SXs after Mild TBI discharge from Emergency Room
  - At D/C  $-\sim 50\%$
  - At 3 Mths 33%
  - At 12 Mths 15%











# NATURAL COURSE – Mild TBI

- 40-80% Experience Sx's ESTIMATE
- 85% No Sx at 1 Year ESTIMATE















- Sports Injuries
- "Return to Play" Guidelines
- Compare Pre- & Postinjury Neuropsychological Testing





















# RECOVERY FROM MILD TBI

- 2 Groups
  - High School Athletes
  - No LOC
- < 5 minutes and > 5 minutes of sx's
  - Anterograde Amnesia
  - Retrograde Amnesia
  - Disorientation

Lovell, et.al. J Neurosurg 2/03







- Self-reported Sx's
  - Less Severe Sx's Peak @ 36 hr
  - < 5 min LOC Nl @ 4 days
  - $->5 \min LOC Nl @ 7 days$







Lovell, et.al. J Neurosurg 2/03















# CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF MILD TBI – RISK OF REINJURY

- HS Athletes
- Includes LOC
- 2 Groups:
  - No Concussions
  - 3+ Concussions

Collins, et.al. Neurosurg 11/02



# CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF MILD TBI

- With the Next Concussion
- Concussion Group
  - -6.7X > LOC
  - 4X > Anterograde Amnesia, Confusion, &
    - >5 minutes Confusion
  - -9X > 3-4 Abnormal Signs/Sx's
- Than the No Concussion group









# CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF MILD TBI

- College Football Players:
- 2+ Concussions:
  - Reduced Speed of Functioning
  - Reduced Executive Functioning
  - Lasting Months or Years





Collins, et.al. Neurosurg 11/02



#### BOTTOM LINE – First time Mild TBI











- Memory OK @ 1 week Probably
- Attention and Information processing OK @ 1 month

• > 1 TBI ?















# Prevalence of Multiple Head Injury

- IPV victims hit in head
  - -25% > 20x in 5 years
  - More times hit = more symptoms
- Strangulation

$$-34\% = 3 - 5x$$

-23% > 5x







- Violent TBI'S Worse At 1 Year Than Other Causes
- Regardless of Gender







Gerhart, et.al. J Trauma Inj, Infection and Critical Care, 12/03















# CONFUSED?

- Remember the difference between Subjective and Objective
  - Patient feels = Subjective
  - You observe = Objective
- Postconcussion Symptoms are Subjective

   Last longer than .....
- Objective tests show faster recovery

# CONFUSED?













- "Return to Play" Tests not Great

   Best if Compared to Pre-Concussion Test
- Women in IPV are not (usually) HS/ College Athletes\*
  - Physically
  - Mentally
  - Psychologically
  - They DON'T want to "Return To Play"
  - \* Although may share more traits w/ Veterans















"Return to Play?" Women in IPV are not (usually) HS/College Athletes

- Protection?
  - Helmet?
  - Mouth guard?
  - Pads?
  - Cup?
  - Referees?

















- What Can Nonmedical Personnel Do To Gauge Client's Decision-making Capabilities?
  - Autonomy
  - Respect















#### How Can Nonmedical Personnel Tell if Client is

- Brain Injured?
- Vs. Depressed?
- Vs. PTSD?
- Vs. Using?
- Vs. "It's Normal to Act \_\_\_\_\_ After You've Been Traumatized"?
- Vs. "All of the Above"?















- Brain Injury Asso. of America pocket guide\* "Management of Concussion in Sports"?
  - Frequently Observed Features of Concussion
  - "Sideline Evaluation"
  - Management Recommendations
  - "Return to Play" guidelines
- Fairly Conservative Guidelines (Available at
  - https://www.lrsssl.com/biaa/bookstore















- Why don't victims of IPV follow-up for court?
- For doctor's appointments?















- WHAT CAN YOU TELL ADVOCATES ABOUT REPETETIVE HEAD TRAUMA?
- WHEN ARE SUCH CLIENTS CAPABLE OF MAKING MAJOR LIFE DECISIONS? (I.E. RECOVERY TIME?)





#### WHAT CAN ADVOCATES DO TO DETERMINE IF CLIENTS ARE CAPABLE OF SUCH DECISIONS?











#### HOW CAN ADVOCATES DETERMINE IF CLIENTS ARE BRAIN INJURED? VS. DEPRESSED?





#### VS. PTSD? VS. USING?







#### PROBLEMS



























# Definitions and Abbreviations

- LOC = Loss of Consciousness ("knocked out")
- Imaging = Taking Pictures of body/ brain
  - -Xrays
  - Ultrasounds
  - -CT scan (= "computed tomography")
  - MRI = magnetic resonance image















### Definitions and Abbreviations

- SX = "Symptom"
- NL = "Normal"
- "Gross" = visible to the naked eye
  - Or Imaging
  - Does not require microscope





# Definitions and Abbreviations

Neurologic deficit or impairment

- "Focal" involves one side or a specific part of body or face
  - E.g. paralysis of one arm



- "Global" involves total brain function
  - E.g. unconsciousness or seizure



















# • Best Eye Response. (4)

- -No eye opening.
- -Eye opening to pain.
- -Eye opening to verbal command.
- -Eyes open spontaneously.















- Best Verbal Response.
  (5)
  - -No verbal response
  - -Incomprehensible sounds.
  - -Inappropriate words.
  - -Confused
  - -Orientated















#### • Best Motor Response. (6)

- No motor response.
- Extension to pain.
- Flexion to pain.
- Withdrawal from pain.
- Localising pain.
- Obeys Commands.















- Scored between 3 and 15
- 3 = Worst
- 15 = best
- 13 or higher correlates with a MILD Brain Injury
- 9 to 12 = MODERATE
- <8 = SEVERE brain injury.















# OHIO STUDY – IPV AND TBI

- 3 Urban Emergency Rooms ("ER")
- 169 Women w/ IPV Identified
- 46 Surveyed re: Lifetime assaults
- 17 w/ 2+ Assaults
- = 71 Assaults used for analysis





# \*









# OHIO STUDY – IPV AND TBI

- PLAY WITH THE NUMBERS =
- <u>MINIMUM</u> 18% OF FEMALE IPV ER PATIENTS W/ RESIDUAL SEQUELAE OF TBI
- MINIMUM 8% W/ LOC
- <u>MINIMUM</u> 4% REQUIRED HOSPITALIZAITON













- POPULATION-BASED REGISTRY
- DISCHARGES FROM CO HOSPITALS
  - ALIVE
  - NEW TBI
  - 1/1/96 6/30/99
  - WEIGHTED SAMPLE



Gerhart, et.al. J Trauma Inj, Infection and Critical Care,











# COLORADO OUTCOMES STUDY

- 2,771 TOTAL ALL TBI'S
- 183 (9.7%) DUE TO VIOLENCE OF ANY KIND
- TELEPHONE SURVEY AT 1 YEAR
- 42% NOT COMPLETED DUE TO
  - DEATH, REFUSAL, LOST TO F/U, NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING, IMPRISONED















# COLORADO OUTCOMES STUDY

#### • OF RESPONDENTS:

- 6.2% RELATED TO VIOLENCE
  - DECREASE DUE TO NON-RESPONDERS
- NONRESPONDERS SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO BE MINORITY
















QUESTIONS

- WHEN ARE SUCH CLIENTS CAPABLE OF MAKING MAJOR LIFE DECISIONS? (I.E. RECOVERY TIME?)
- Different Studies = Different Results















#### TESTS

- ALL GUIDELINES COMPARED TO
- GOLD STANDARD = NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING
- ARRAY OF TESTS MAY INCLUDE:
  - MEMORY
  - ATTENTION/CONCENTRATION
  - PERCEPTION
  - EXECUTIVE FUNCTION
  - CONCEPT FORMATION, INTELLIGENCE...















#### TESTS

- ALL GUIDELINES COMPARED TO ...
- GOLD STANDARD = NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING
  - EXPENSIVE
  - TIME CONSUMING
  - SPECIAL TRAINING TO ADMINISTER AND INTERPRET













# NEUROPSYCH TESTING: PROSPECTIVE STUDIES

- CONCUSSED VS. NOT:
  - SIGNIFICANT IMPAIRMENT IN ATTENTION AND INFO PROCESSING
  - SAME AS CONTROLS AT 1 MON
- FULL NEUROPSYCH EVAL NOT NECESSARY FOR ALL



### QUESTIONS

#### HOW CAN ADVOCATES DETERMINE IF CLIENTS ARE BRAIN INJURED?



#### NSWER: IT''S HARD

For Everyone

Overlap in SXs with other conditions



















#### MORE ABBREVIATIONS

- DIM'D = Diminished
- INCR'D = Increased
- DECR'D = Decreased
- INT = Internal
- EXT = External















#### DEPRESSION

- DEPRESSED MOOD MOST OF DAY MOST DAYS
  - DIM'D INTEREST OR PLEASURE MOST OF DAY MOST DAYS
- WEIGHT UP OR DN >5% (NO DIET)
- APPETITE UP OR DN MOST DAYS
- INSOMNIA HYPERSOMNIA



#### DEPRESSION























## ACUTE STRESS D/O

- EXTRAORDINARY EVENT
- RESPONSE LIKE PTSD
- DISSOCIATIVE SX'S AT TIME OR DURING RECALL
- RE-EXPERIENCING TRAUMA















## ACUTE STRESS D/O

- AVOIDANCE OF STIMULI
- ANXIETY/AROUSAL
- IMPAIRMENT = SOCIAL/ OCCUPATIONAL
- IMPAIRMENT = SEEKING HELP OR TELLING FAMILY MEMBERS



# ACUTE STRESS D/O



#### DISSOCIATIVE SX'S AT TIME OR DURING RECALL



NUMBING, DETACHMENT, NO EMOTION



DEREALIZATION

"DAZE"



-DEPERSONALIZATION -DISSOCIATIVE AMNESIA (RE TRAUMA)





#### PTSD







INTENSE PSYCH DISTRESS TO INT OR EXT CUES













-THOUGHTS, FEELINGS, CONVERSE





















#### PTSD

• PERSISTENT INCR'D AROUSAL -DIM'D FALLING/STAYING ASLEEP -IRRITABLE/ANGRY OUTBURSTS -DIFFICULTY CONCENTRATING -HYPERVIGILANCE -EXAGGERATED STARTLE RESPONSE





# GENERALIZED ANXIETY D/O

- > 6 MTH XS ANXIETY MOST DAYS
- CAN'T CONTROL WORRY
- RESTLESS/"KEYED UP"
- POOR CONCENTRATION –









# GENERALIZED ANXIETY D/O

- SLEEP DISTURBANCE
- IRRITABILITY
- MUSCLE TENSION
- DEVELOPS OVER SHORT TIME











- W/ OR W/OUT MEDS/SUB AB
- DISTURBANCE OF CONSCIOUSNESS
  - DIM'D CLARITY OF AWARENESS
  - DECR'D FOCUS
  - DECR'D SUSTAIN OR SHIFT ATTENTION

















#### DELIRIUM

- COGNITION CHANGE
  - DIM'D MEMORY
  - DISORIENTAION
  - LANGUAGE DISTURBANCE



#### **BOTTOM LINE**









NO FOCAL DEFICITS

#### NO SEIZURES

AMNESIA

LOC



















# Suggestions?

- In Advocates' education
- In Advocates' education of Law Enforcement
  - "If you wouldn't let a football player *in a helmet* return to play....."
- Helpful to shelter staff?















#### FUTURE RESEARCH

- Studies are being done on Perpetrators
  - Some consistent with past TBI
  - Show DEC'D "Executive Function"
- Why not on IPV victims?



## FUTURE RESEARCH







- Multiple TBI

More studies on TBI and IPV needed



Would reliable test for Mild TBI be helpful or useful in a IPV shelter?

How would it be used?









• SERIAL EXAMS AT SHELTERS?











- ANTIDEPRESSANTS FOR ALL?
- SYMPTOM CHECK LIST AS GUIDE?







• What's the downside of more research?























#### • HOW CAN THIS TALK BE MORE HELPFUL TO YOU?

# • IS THIS INTERESTING OR USEFUL?













#### HIDDEN INJURIES AND MISDIAGNOSES IN BATTERING

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