

BRAIN INJURY & CHILDREN



...know the facts - learn prevention

In New York State:

Over 36,000 children are hospitalized or seen in emergency rooms for a traumatic brain injury

Over 40% of children hospitalized due to a traffic-related injury incur a TBI (this includes vehicle occupants, pedestrians and bicyclists)

www.nyhealth.gov/prevention/injury_prevention

According to the Centers for Disease Control (2006), annually in the US:

450,000 children 0 - 19 sustain a TBI

74,000 children die

62,000 children are hospitalized

384,000 children are seen in emergency departments

Cause of Injury

Falls are the leading cause of hospitalization due to TBI for children age 0 to 14

Struckby/against events - colliding with a moving or stationary object are the #2 cause of injury for children age 0 to 14

Motor vehicle accidents are the #1 cause of injury for children age 15 to 19

Shaken Baby Syndrome is a leading cause of child abuse deaths in the United States

Sports and Recreation Related Injury

During 2001-2005, sports-related concussions accounted for 135,000 emergency department visits for children 5 -18 years

The following recreational activities account for the highest number of concussions among children:

1. bicycling
2. football
3. basketball
4. playground activities
5. soccer

...A concussion is a brain injury

A brain injury can occur without loss of consciousness

Safety Tips from the Centers for Disease Control:

Wear a seat belt every time you drive or ride in a motor vehicle

Buckle children in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt

Ensure that children wear a helmet when engaging in the following activities:

Riding a bike, motorcycle, snowmobile, scooter, or all-terrain vehicle

Playing a contact sport, such as football, ice hockey or boxing

Using in-line skates or riding a skateboard

Batting and running bases in baseball or softball

Riding a horse; or skiing or snowboarding

According to New York State Law all bicyclists, in-line skaters, skateboarders and scooter users under the age of fourteen are required to wear approved bicycle helmets (NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law 1238)

Install window guards to keep young children from falling out of open windows

Use safety gates at the top and bottom of stairs when young children are around

Make sure the surface on your child's playground is made of shock-absorbing material, such as hardwood mulch or sand



**BRAIN INJURY
ASSOCIATION
OF NEW YORK STATE**

10 Colvin Avenue
Albany, NY 12206
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Phone: (518) 459-7911
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Web: www.bianys.org
Web: www.projectlearnnet.org

BRAIN INJURY & CHILDREN



A Brain Injury Includes

*a concussion
a stroke
a blast injury
a severe whiplash injury
a blow to the head
a bump on the head
neurotoxic exposure
shaken baby syndrome
near drowning
anoxic/hypoxic episodes*

Symptoms of a Brain Injury

*headache
ringing in the ears
nausea & fatigue
feeling dazed or confused
trouble focusing
irritability & agitation
difficulty listening
attention problems
behavior changes*

USE THE FACTS PROGRAM

Contact the **Family Advocacy, Counseling and Training Services Coordinator (FACTS)** in your region. The Brain Injury Association of New York State employs 15 FACTS Coordinators statewide. FACTS Coordinators can provide supportive counseling and on-going emotional support for individuals and families, assistance in locating local services, outreach and prevention training to schools, facilitation of the LEARNet website and assistance with the development of brain injury support groups. Call the Association toll free (800) 228-8201 for more information.

USE LEARNET

Found on the web at www.projectlearnnet.org, this online resource contains information about brain injury, a glossary of terms, over 50 tutorials and a video library of strategies to help support the family, teachers, health professionals, therapists and coaches after a young person sustains a brain injury.



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LEARNet
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- ✓ identify brain injury related problems
- ✓ suggest solutions
- ✓ demonstrate strategies
- ✓ provide tutorials
- ✓ assist in developing educational programming for young persons with a brain injury