

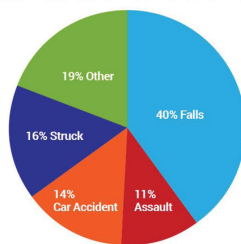
June is

Brain Injury Awareness Month in Canada

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is an injury to the brain which is not hereditary, congenital or degenerative. Over 1 million Canadians live with the effects of brain injury.

Common causes of brain injury are blows to the head, whiplash injury, seizure disorders, tumors, infectious diseases, toxic exposure (including substance abuse), or events restricting oxygen to the brain (cardiopulmonary arrest, carbon monoxide poisoning, airway obstruction). Vehicle accidents and falls account for half of the approximately 160,000 occurrences every year in Canada.

Common Causes of Brain Injury



ABI is life-changing for the individual as well as his or her family. Confusion, forgetfulness, and difficulty processing thoughts can make everyday activities challenging and create frustration and depression.

However, with the right supports, individuals can thrive and participate in community. Many people with ABI live with a high degree of independence, enjoying positive and meaningful relationships and employment.

There is limited support or funding to assist families in coping with the demands of ABI. Awareness of the condition is needed in part to educate the public because it is a condition that is difficult to get help for.

At Bethesda we serve only a couple people with ABI, but we support policies that benefit people with ABI, including direct support services, education about brain injury prevention and safety, and research into brain injury and healing.

To learn more about ABI:



braininjurycanada.ca