

Symptom Checklist: A wide variety of symptoms can occur after "brain injury". The nature of the symptoms depends, in large part, on where the brain has been injured. Below is a list of possible physical and cognitive symptoms which may arise from damage to specific areas of the brain:

Frontal Lobe: forehead

- Loss of simple movement of various body parts
- Inability to plan a sequence of complex movements needed to complete multi-stepped tasks, such as making coffee
- Loss of spontaneity in interacting with others
- Loss of flexibility in thinking
- Persistence of a single thought
- Inability to focus on task
- Changes in social behavior
- Mood Changes
- Changes in personality
- Difficulty with problem solving
- Inability to express language

Parietal Lobe: near the back and top of the head

- Inability to attend to more than one object at a time
- Inability to name an object or locate words for writing
- Problems with reading
- Difficulty in distinguishing left from right or drawing objects
- Difficulty with doing mathematics
- Lack of awareness of certain body parts/surrounding space that leads to difficulties in self care
- Inability to focus visual attention
- Difficulties with eye and hand coordination

Occipital Lobes: most posterior, at back of head

- Defects in vision Production in hallucinations
- Difficulty with locating objects in environment
- Visual illusions-inaccurately seeing objects
- Word blindness-inability to recognize words
- Difficulty in recognizing drawn objects, reading and writing
- Inability to recognize the movement of object

Temporal Lobes: sides of head above ears

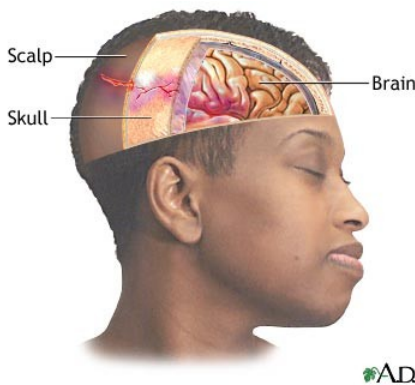
- Difficulty in recognizing faces
- Difficulty in understanding spoken words
- Disturbance with selective attention to what we see and hear
- Difficulty with identification of, and verbalization about objects
- Short term memory loss
- Interference with long term memory
- Increased and decreased interest in sexual behavior
- Inability to categorize objects
- Right lobe damage can cause persistent talking
- Increased aggressive behavior

Brain Stem: deep within the brain

- Decreased vital capacity in breathing, important for speech
- Swallowing food and water
- Difficulty with organization/perception of the environment
- Problems with balance and movement
- Dizziness and nausea
- Sleeping difficulties (Insomnia, sleep apnea)

Cerebellum: base of the skull

- Loss of ability to coordinate fine movements
- Loss of ability to walk Tremors Dizziness
- Inability to reach out and grab objects
- Slurred speech Inability to make rapid movements



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Frontal Lobe: Forehead

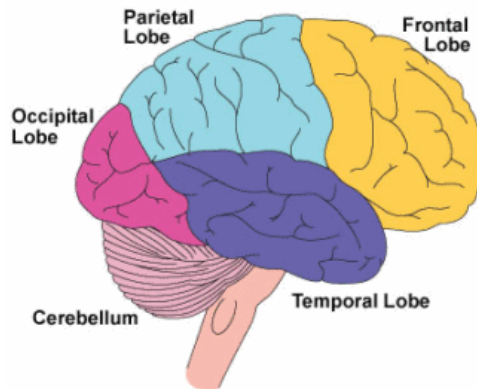
Parietal Lobe: Near the back and top of the head

Occipital Lobe: most posterior, at back of head

Temporal Lobes: side of head above ears

Brain Stem: deep within the brain

Cerebellum: base of the skull



**Brain Injury Can cause:
Challenging Cognitive, Physical &
Emotional Impairments**

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cognition (thinking) | Depression |
| Memory | Anxiety/Fear |
| Poor Coping Skills | Anger/Rage |
| Speech Impairments | Paranoia |
| Visual Impairments | Withdrawal |
| Paralysis | Low Self-Esteem |
| Lack of Confidence | Impulsivity |
| Strength & Coordination Impairments | |
| Labile (rapidly changing) Mood | |

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION GEORGIA



For more information please contact:
Brain Injury Association of Georgia
www.braininjurygeorgia.org
info@braininjurygeorgia.org
1-800-444-6443—404-712-5504

BIAG is affiliated with the Brain Injury Association of America

*BIAG-Creating a better future through brain injury prevention, advocacy, education and support. Please support our efforts by making a donation today.
Please visit our website!*



Quick Facts

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 1.4 million

Americans are treated at a hospital for traumatic brain injury each year. Brain injury may be caused by a sudden insult to the brain from an external force (traumatic brain injury, "TBI") or by any injury to the brain occurring after birth (acquired brain Injury, ABI)

- TBI is the leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults.
- Six times more people experience TBI each year than MS, Spinal cord injury, HIV/AIDS, and breast cancer combined.
- 5.3 million Americans, over 2% of the population, live with disabilities as a result of TBI.
- Only 20% of persons with brain injury are able to get rehabilitation and other services needed to aid recovery because of high costs, insurance gaps, widespread lack of knowledge about brain injury, and shortage of services.
- Brain injury often impoverishes families and costs society \$48.3 billion annually.

(Source: Information compiled by The Centers for Disease Control)

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Leading Causes:

The leading cause of traumatic brain injury is falls followed by motor vehicle accidents, sports and recreation mishaps and violence. Acquired brain injury may be caused by trauma, oxygen deprivation, infectious disease, toxins, stroke or heart attack.

Georgia and Brain Injury:

Approximately 57,000 Georgians suffer brain injury annually with over 3,000 of these injuries resulting in permanent disability.

Current figures estimate 150,000 Georgians have permanent disability cause by brain injury

(Source: BSITFC Central Registry 2007)

The Brain Injury Association of Georgia's mission is to improve the quality of life for people with brain injury and their family and friends.

We are committed to assisting the Georgia brain injured community with available resources to help through this difficult journey of recovery through advocacy, education, support and education!

The Brain Injury Association of Georgia Can Help!

BIAG provides this information for your use and information only. Please do research according to your needs, and situation. Visit your medical professional !

BIAG is comprised of survivors, family members, friends, and professionals who are all working together to provide community support programs assisting individuals and their families to have a better understanding of the effects of brain injury and to facilitate rehabilitation opportunities

Our Services Include:

- National Brain Injury Information Center Helpline—**1-800-444-6443**
- **Information & Resource Service Coordinator** who offers one-on-one support, information and resources via phone or email. I&R can also connect you with members who will provide mentoring from someone who has been down that difficult path as a survivor or a caregiver.
- A Statewide Network of **Support Groups**
- **Peer Visitor for Veterans Program**, offering Hope, Support & Resources for veteran brain injury survivors and their families
- An online **website** offering resource and information
- Summer **Camp** Programs for brain injury Survivors and Caregivers
- **Educational conferences, training programs, and workshops** for survivors, families, and service providers and Support Group Leaders
- **Advocacy** for safety laws, services, and needed public policy changes Public awareness and prevention programs

