

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) FAQ

Understanding your rights and options after a brain injury in Colorado.

Based on Traumatic Brain Injuries by McCormick and Murphy

Q: What exactly is a traumatic brain injury (TBI)?

A: A TBI is any disruption to normal brain function caused by an external force. This can include a blow to the head, a violent jolt, or rapid acceleration and deceleration of the head.

Q: What are some examples of TBIs?

A: TBIs range from mild injuries like concussions to more severe brain damage. The key factor is the disruption of normal brain function due to an external force.

Q: What qualifies as a TBI legally in Colorado?

A: In Colorado, a TBI legally qualifies if it was caused by someone else's negligence or wrongful act. This injury must also result in medical expenses, lost income, pain, or long-term impairment.

Q: Do I have to lose consciousness to have a TBI claim?

A: No, you do not need to lose consciousness or have a visible wound for your injury to qualify as a TBI legally. If your brain function has been affected and another party is at fault, you may have a valid claim.

Q: What if my brain injury seems mild, like a concussion?

A: Even mild TBIs, such as concussions, can qualify legally in Colorado if caused by negligence and result in damages like medical expenses or lost income. The severity doesn't disqualify a claim if fault and impact are proven.

Q: What kind of external forces can cause a TBI?

A: External forces include direct blows to the head, sudden jolts, or rapid acceleration and deceleration of the head. These actions can disrupt normal brain function.

Q: What does 'negligence or wrongful act' mean in relation to TBI?

A: This refers to a situation where another person or entity failed to act with reasonable care, and this failure directly led to your brain injury. Examples could include car accidents caused by distracted driving or workplace accidents due to unsafe conditions.

Q: What types of damages can result from a TBI?

A: Damages can include medical expenses for treatment and rehabilitation, lost income due to inability to work, pain and suffering, and long-term impairments that affect your quality of life.

Q: How do I know if I have a valid TBI claim?

A: You may have a valid claim if your brain function has been affected by an external force and another party's negligence or wrongful act caused the injury, leading to damages like medical bills or lost wages.

Q: Can a TBI happen without a visible head wound?

A: Yes, absolutely. A TBI is defined by the disruption of brain function, not necessarily by external signs. You can suffer a TBI without any visible wound.

Q: What is the difference between a mild TBI and a severe TBI?

A: The difference lies in the extent of the disruption to normal brain function. Mild TBIs, like concussions, may have temporary effects, while severe TBIs can result in significant and long-lasting impairments.

Resources & Further Reading

Related guides for these FAQs:

■ Navigating a Traumatic Brain Injury Claim in Colorado Springs (Process Flow)

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260710-3eaad2/mccormick-and-murphy/Process%20Flow/traumatic-brain-injuries-process-flow.pdf>

■ Traumatic Brain Injury Claims in Colorado Springs (Comparison)

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260710-3eaad2/mccormick-and-murphy/Comparison/traumatic-brain-injuries-comparison.pdf>

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Understand your rights if a TBI was caused by someone else's negligence.