

Head Injury: Classification Most Severe to Least Severe

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DISCLOSURE

Douglas Katz, MD: no significant financial relationships to disclose.

TBI Incidence & Prevalence in the USA

CDC figures

>2.5 million/yr injured (75% mild)

2.2 million/yr emergency dept. visits

280,000/yr are hospitalized

50,000/yr die with TBI

80,000/yr left with permanent disabilities

Leading cause of death and disability under age 44

3.2 to 5.3 million living with TBI disability (estimated)*

Annual cost in US is over \$60 billion

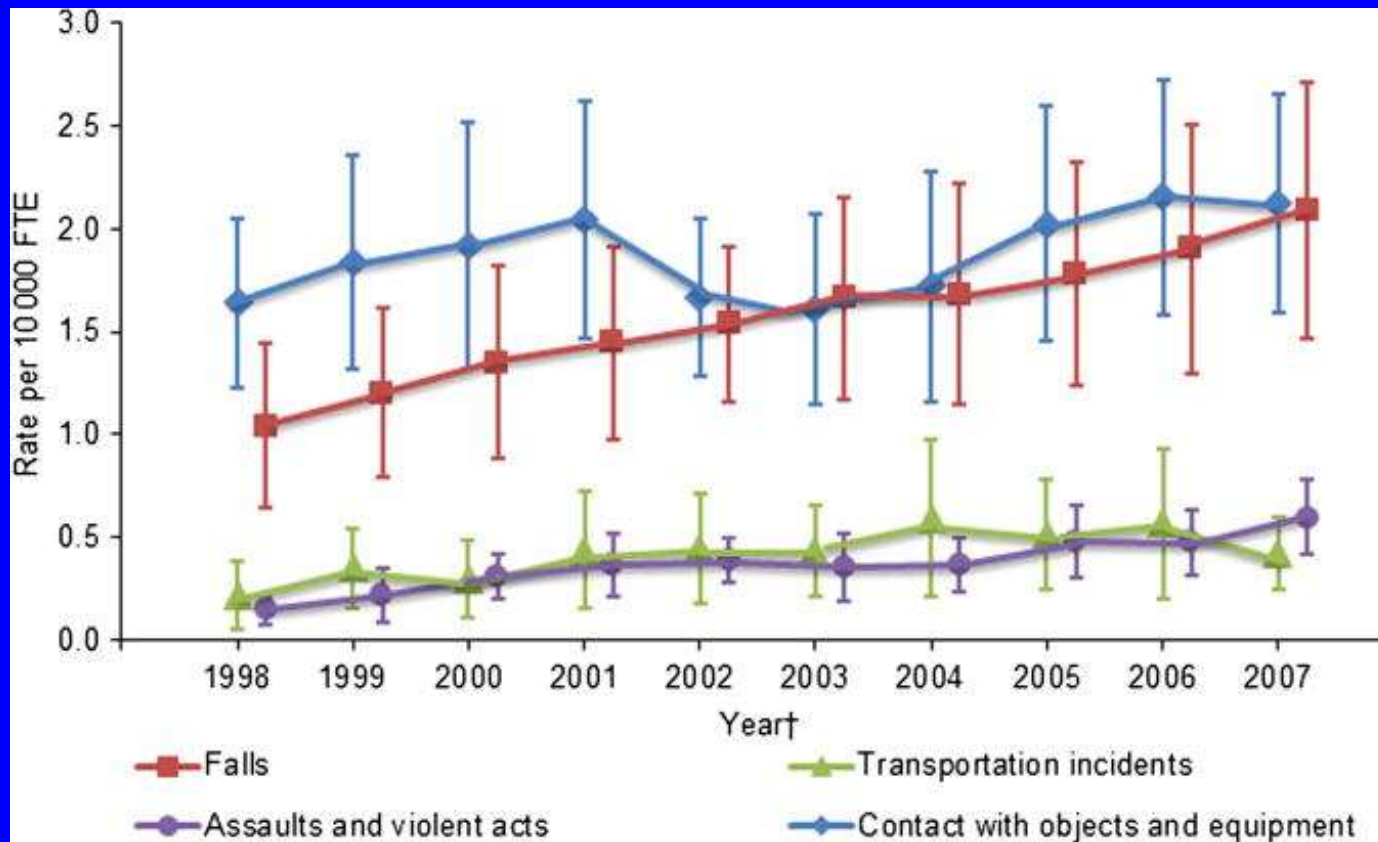
M Faul, et al.: CDC, 2010

*Zaloshnja E, et al.: J Head Trauma Rehab, 2008

Work-related TBI in the US

Konda et al., *Inj Prev*, 2015

Rates of non-fatal WRTBIs treated in emergency departments by year and event, US, 1998–2007



Trend of increasing rates 1998-2007.

Most common causes: Falls and Contact with objects/equipment.

Work-related TBI in the US by industry

Highest rate
of injury

Industry	Per cent	Rate per 10,000 FTE
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	5	16.8
Transportation and warehousing	8	8.9
Arts, entertainment and recreation	3	8.6
Construction	12	7.8
Accommodation and food services	8	7.2
Public administration	5	5.7
Retail trade	11	5.6
Healthcare and social assistance	11	4.9
Wholesale trade	3	4.3

Greatest
number of
injuries

Mechanisms of Injury: contact phenomena



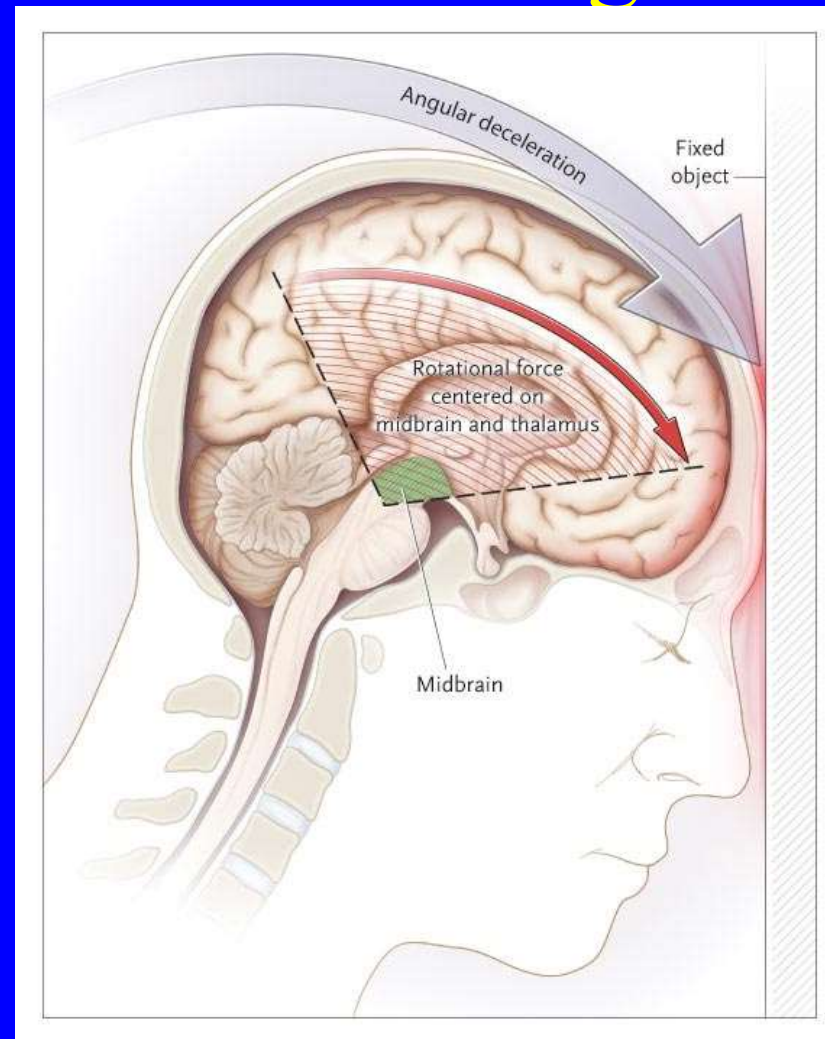
Mechanisms of Injury: contact phenomena



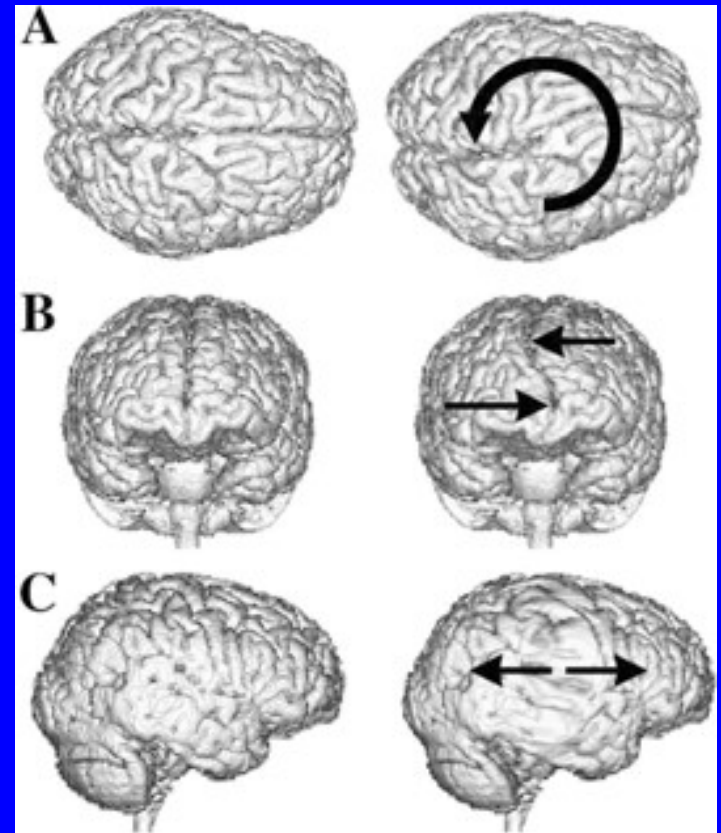
Mechanisms of Injury: Inertial Loading



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Neuropathological Consequences of TBI

Diffuse

Focal

Primary

Diffuse axonal injury
small white matter hemor.

Focal cortical contusion
Deep cerebral hemorrhage
(extracerebral hemorrhage)

Secondary

Hypoxic-ischemic injury
Microvascular injury
Swelling
Excitotoxicity
Delayed neuronal injury

Hypoxic-ischemic injury (stroke)
Herniation damage
Swelling
Excitotoxicity & neuronal injury
Late hemorrhages

Natural History of Recovery From Diffuse TBI

3 Main Phases of Recovery

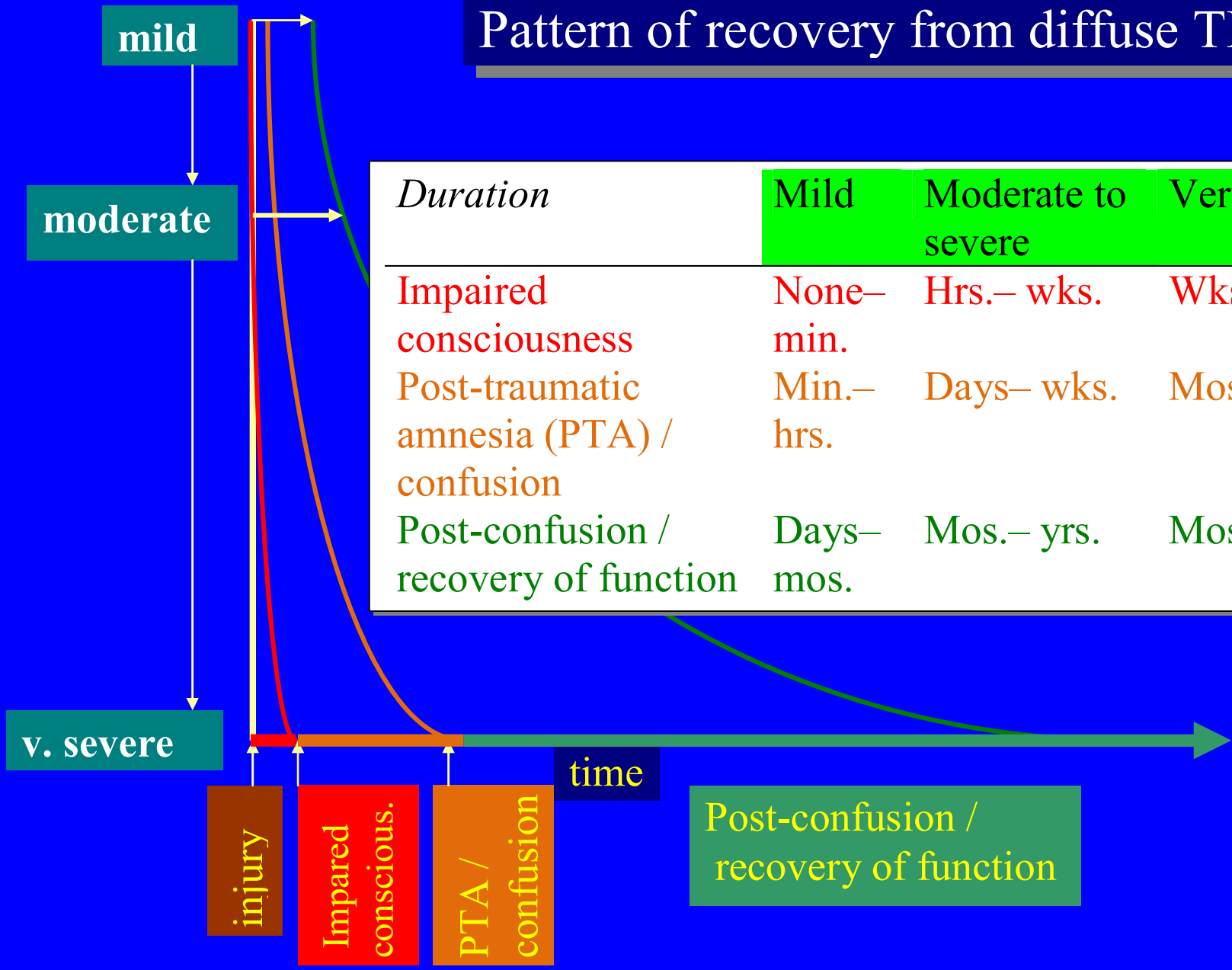
Impaired con-
sciousness

PTA / confusion

post-confusion / recovery of cognitive function



Pattern of recovery from diffuse TBI



<i>Duration</i>	Mild	Moderate to severe	Very severe
Impaired consciousness	None– min.	Hrs.– wks.	Wks.- ?
Post-traumatic amnesia (PTA) / confusion	Min.– hrs.	Days– wks.	Mos. - ?
Post-confusion / recovery of function	Days– mos.	Mos.– yrs.	Mos.,yrs.- ?

Glasgow Coma Scale

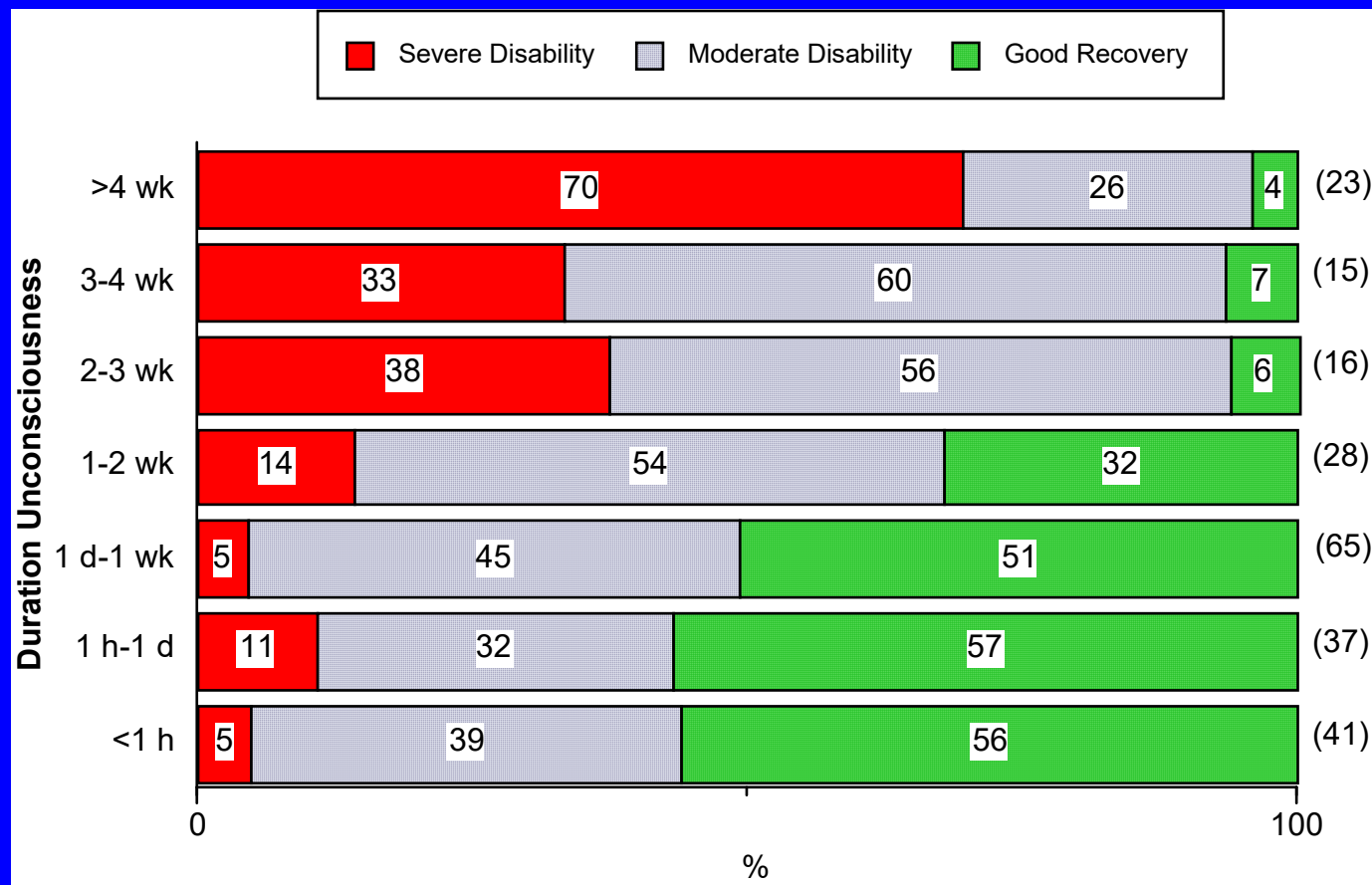
Eye Opening Response	Verbal Response	Motor Response
4 = Spontaneous	5 = Oriented	6 = Obeys commands
3 = To verbal stimuli	4 = Confused	5 = Localizes pain
2 = To pain	3 = Inappropriate words	4 = Withdraws from pain
1 = None	2 = Incoherent	3 = Flexion to pain or decorticate
	1 = None	2 = Extension to pain or decerebrate
		1 = None

Total score = 3 to 15

TBI severity by GCS, LOC, PTA, and brain imaging

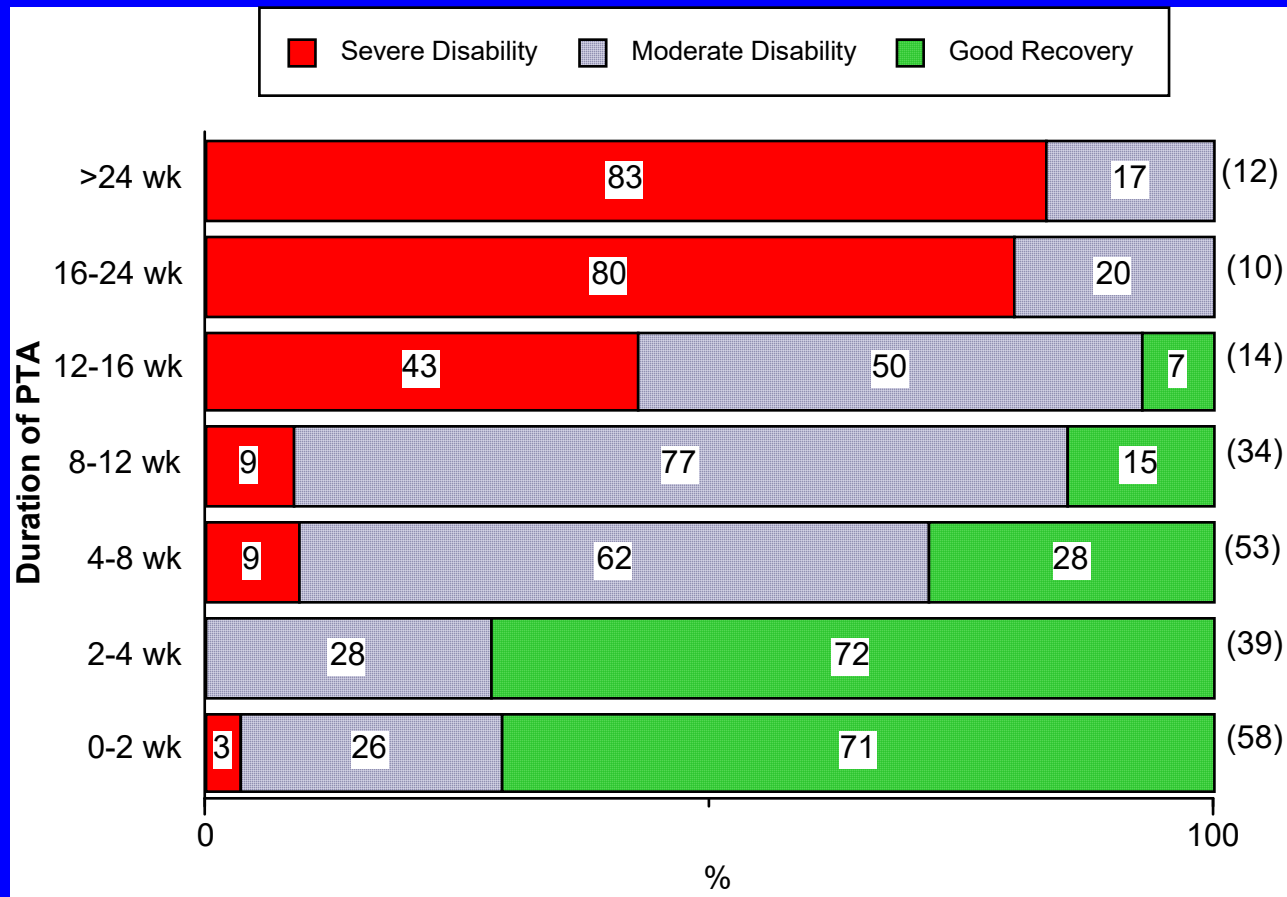
	GCS	LOC	PTA	Brain Imaging
Mild	13-15	0-30 min	<1 day	Usually normal
Moderate	9-12	>30 min to <24 hrs	>1 day to <7 days	Normal or abnormal
Severe	3-8	>24 hrs	>7 days	Normal or abnormal

Functional Outcome: 1 year outcome related to duration of unconsciousness (n= 225 rehab. admissions w/ diffuse TBI)



Katz & Alexander, Arch Neurol, 1994

1 year outcome related to duration of PTA (n=220 rehab. admissions with diffuse TBI)

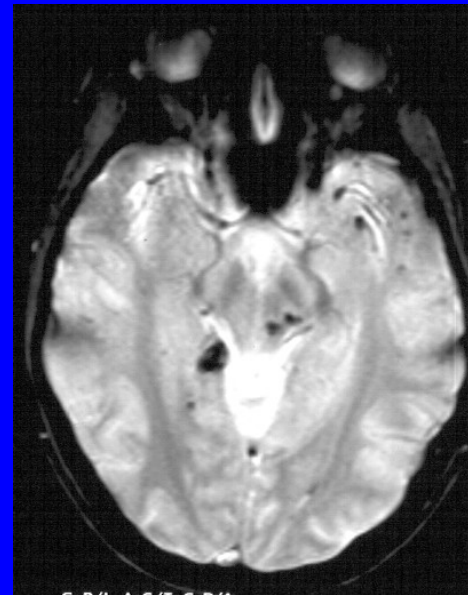
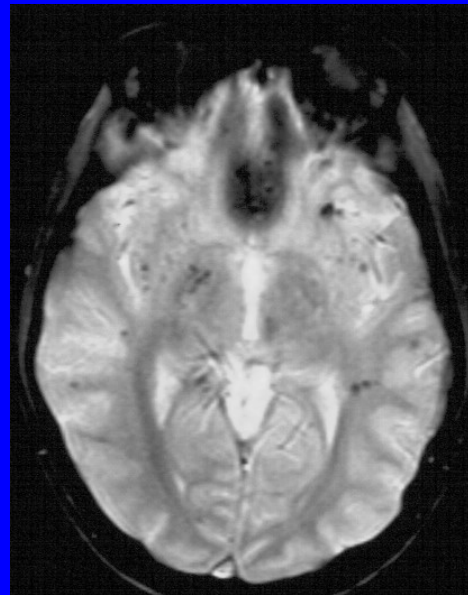
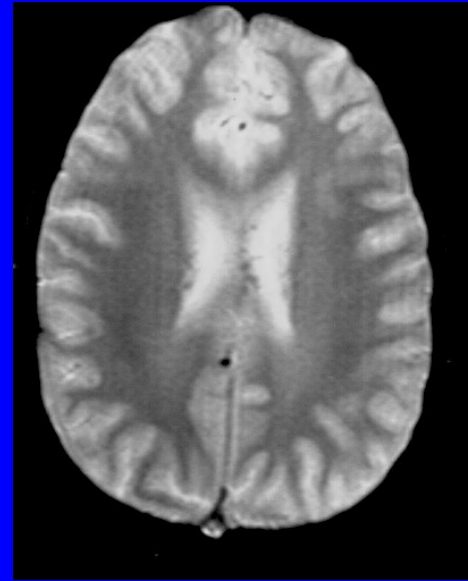
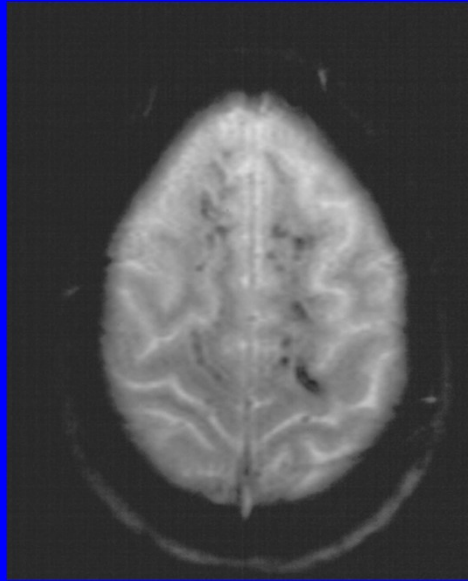


Diagnosis of DAI

- acceleration/deceleration mechanism
- immediate loss of consciousness (no lucid interval)
- supportive findings on CT/MR (petechial white matter hemorrhages, subarachnoid or intraventricular hemorrhage diffuse swelling)

17yo TBI in MVA

DAI:
Gradient echo or
Susceptibility
Weighted MRI
demonstrates
petechial
hemorrhages



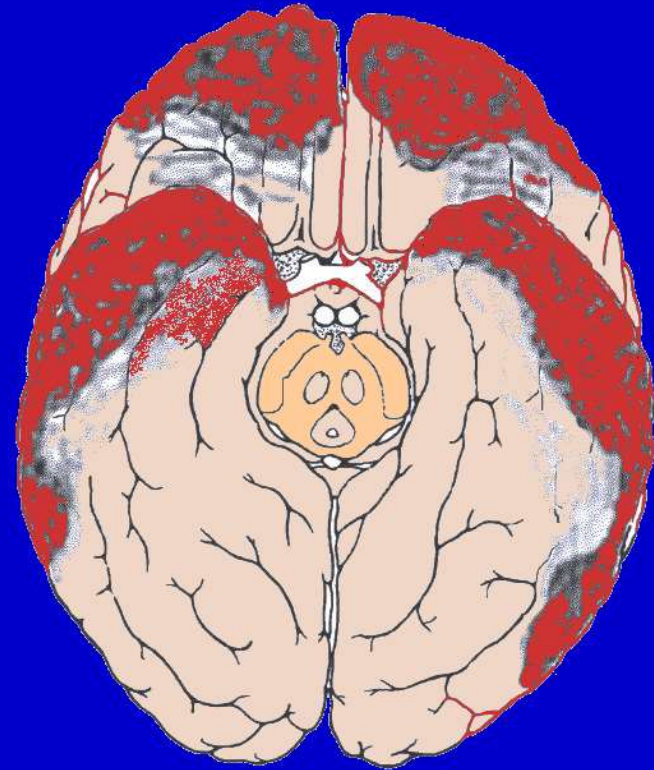
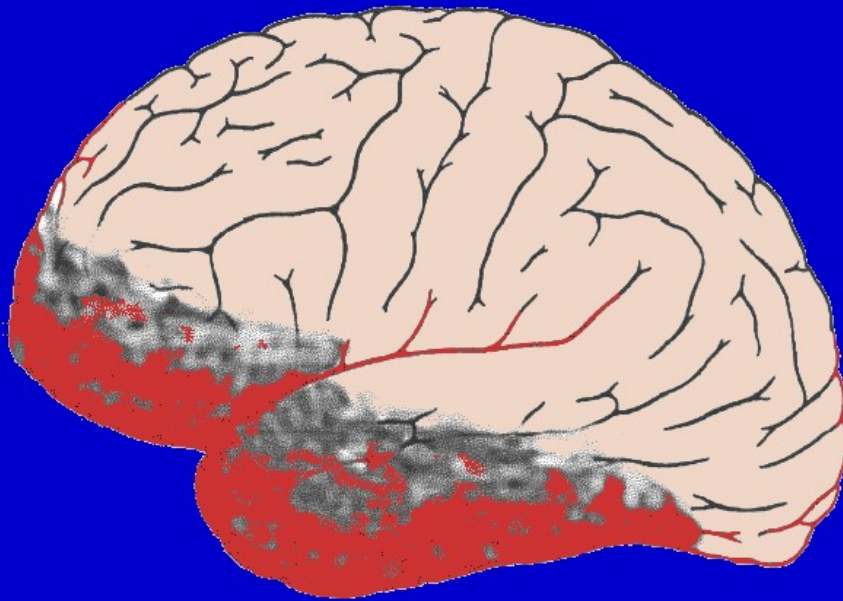
In parasagittal
subcortical
WM, temporal
WM, corpus
callosum, dlat.
Midbrain, R
int. capsule, et
al.

Potential clinical affects of TBI

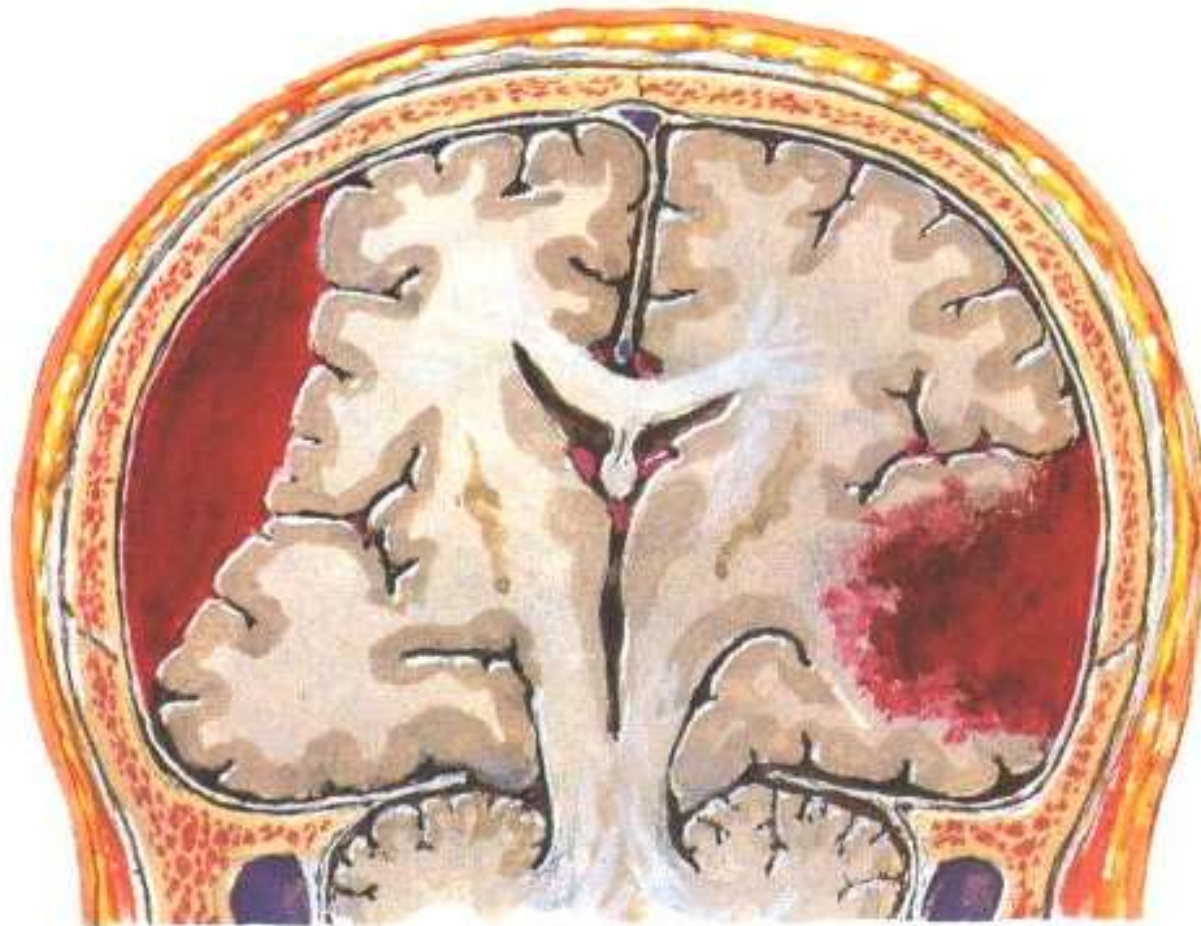
- Cognitive Function (e.g., attention, memory and executive functioning)
- Emotion (e.g., depression, anxiety, aggression, impulse control, personality changes)
- Motor function (e.g., extremity weakness, impaired coordination and balance)
- Sensation (e.g., hearing, vision, impaired perception and touch)

Focal Cortical Contusions

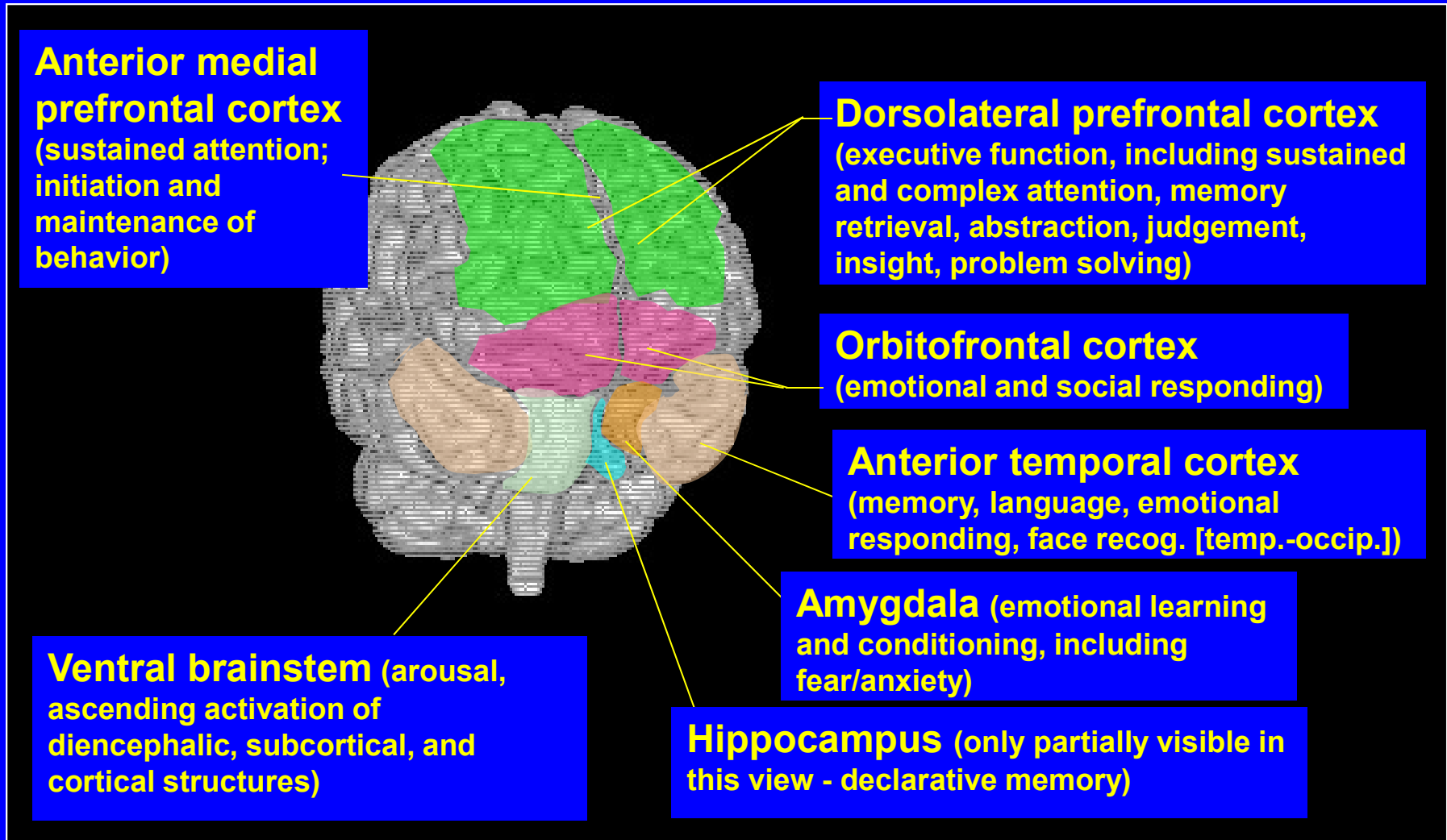
Predisposed Locations: Anterior-inferior Frontal and
Temporal Lobes



Focal Injury: SDH and Focal Cortical Contusion

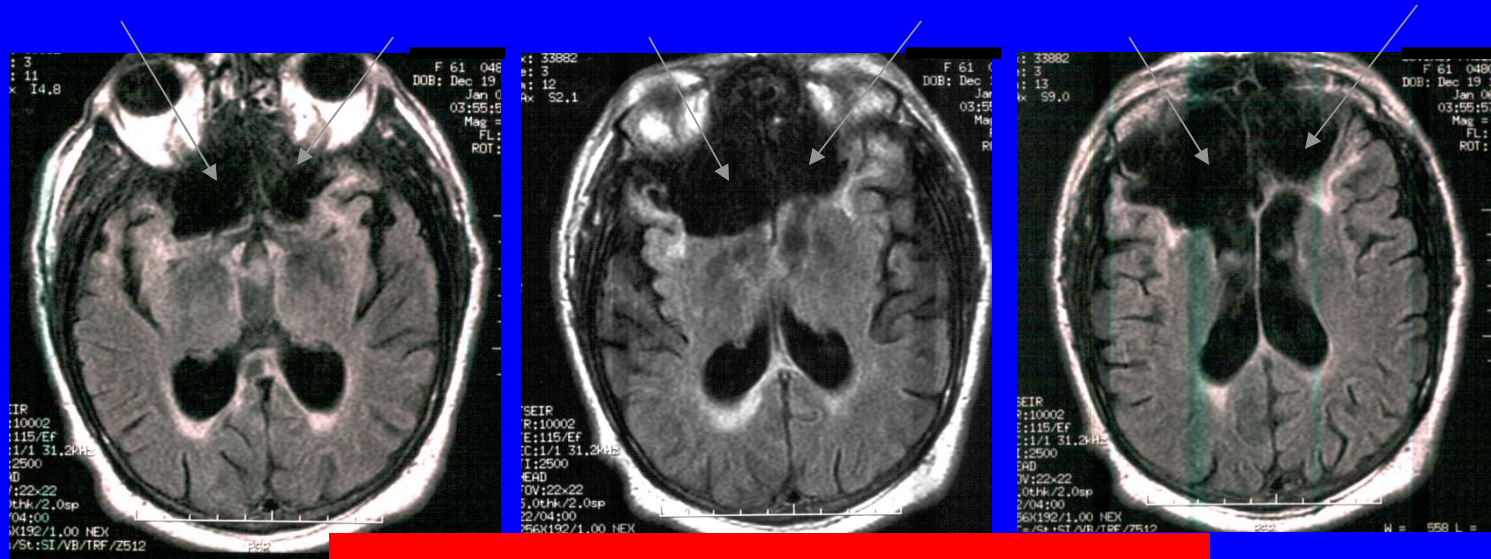


Regional Cortical Vulnerability to TBI Predicts Neurobehavioral Syndromes

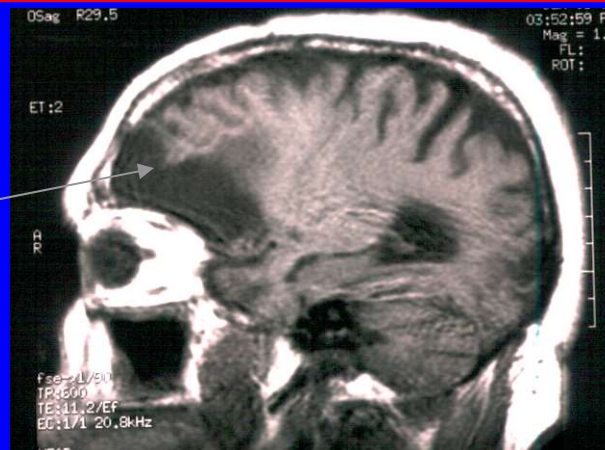


(Figure adapted from Arciniegas and Beresford 2001)

39yoM fell 4 feet off loading dock
brief LOC, then lethargic; PTA 4 wks

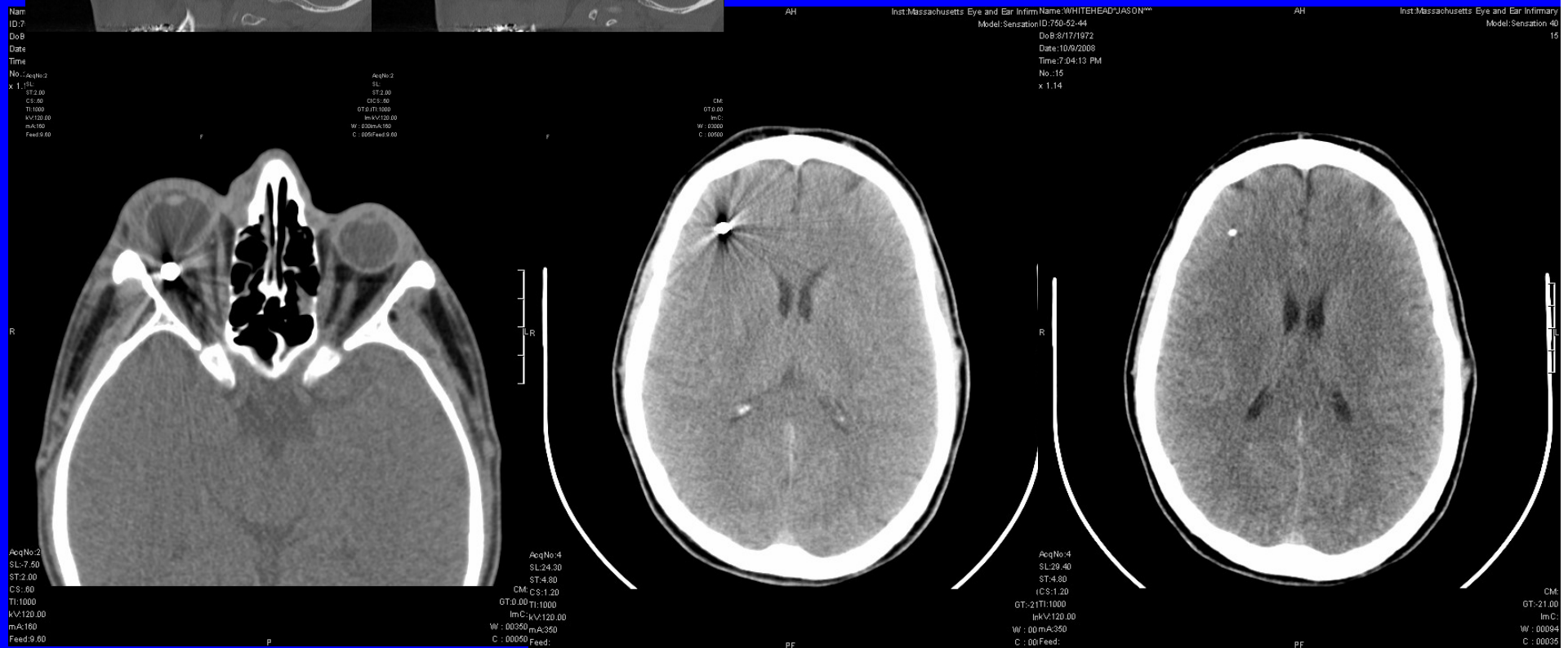


Bilat. Frontal contusions



36yoM PBI while working on roof

- No LOC, small maxillary entry wound
- 3 days later, pus from eye & nose
- 1 year later, personality change, less motivated, irritable, decr. working memory



Key points: TBI

- Two major mechanisms of injury are contact and inertial forces.
- Pathophysiology of TBI includes a combination of diffuse, focal and secondary injury processes.
- Diffuse axonal injury (DAI) is the major form of diffuse injury and involves delayed axonal disruptions and a host of associated secondary phenomena.

Key points: TBI (cont.)

- Recovery after diffuse injury involves a recognizable pattern of stages evolving from altered consciousness, to confusion/amnesia, to post-confusional recovery of attention, memory and executive cognitive functions.
- Duration of stages of recovery and severity of impairments at any stage relates to injury severity and other non-injury factors, including age. These variables serve as the main clinical outcome predictors.

Key points: TBI (cont.)

- Focal injuries involve focal cortical contusions, deep hemorrhages, subdural and epidural hematoma and focal ischemic lesions.
- Clinical syndromes relate to areas damaged by focal injury that interrupt distributed neurologic networks.
 - Frontal and temporal networks are most commonly damaged causing impairments in executive functions, attention, memory, behavioral & emotional regulation.
 - Syndromes are similar to those after diffuse injury which affect the same networks.

Key points: TBI (cont.)

- Late secondary complications (chronic subdurals, hydrocephalus, seizures) must be recognized since they may alter the course of recovery.