

BRAIN INJURY

Key facts and figures

ABOUT BRAIN INJURY

- One in 45 Australians live with a brain injury
- Almost three out of four people with a brain injury are under 65
- One in four brain injury hospitalisations are people aged 15 - 24
- 2% of all Australians live with a brain injury



IMPACTS OF BRAIN INJURY

- 51% of Indigenous Australians between 45-59 report a head injury
- 42% of adult male prisoners have been diagnosed with a brain injury
- 30% of Australians seeking homelessness support have a disability
- Head injuries from falls in older Australians have doubled in the past decade
- Fall related injury is six times more likely to occur in residential aged care than the home

COMMON CAUSES OF BRAIN INJURY

● Falls **39%**

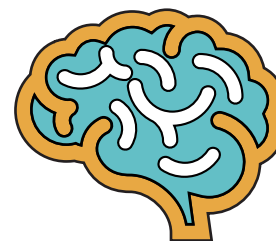
● Transport accidents **31%**

● Assault **12%**



Other causes:

- Stroke
- Degenerative conditions
- Hypoxia/Anoxia (lack of oxygen to the brain)
- Brain tumours
- Infection or disease
- Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)



EFFECTS OF BRAIN INJURY

Cognitive

Problems with:
Planning and organising
Memory
Attention and concentration
Decision-making

Behavioural

Personality changes
Identity problems
Irritability & Anger
Disinhibition & Impulsivity
Low motivation and initiation
Egocentricity & Lack of self-awareness
Risk of domestic violence

Psychological

Low mood & anxiety
Panic attacks
Clinical depression
Increased suicide risk
Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Physical

Fatigue & sleep problems
Headaches
Pain
Epilepsy & seizures
Sensory & perception
Balance & dizziness
Hearing loss
Sexual changes
Communication & speech
Visual impairments

Social

Changed family relationships
Barriers to employment & reduced income
Reduced social support network

SOURCES:

