

# How to Use This Toolkit

The goal of the toolkit is to educate early childhood staff and parents about traumatic brain injuries. This toolkit evolved through collaborations between the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri Head Start Association, Head Start State Collaboration Office and the University of Missouri-Columbia, Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Department of Health Psychology. The toolkit contains handouts for professionals (Fact Sheet, Health History Form and an Incident Report Form), handouts for parents (Brain Development and Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI), Signs and Symptoms of Traumatic Brain Injury and Some Causes of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI)).

Finally a DVD “Traumatic Brain Injuries in Early Childhood: Recognizing, Recovering, Supporting” Traumatic Brain injury. The DVD can be used for group trainings or individually with parents. The titles of each section on the DVD are listed below along with a brief description of the content of each section. The goal of the toolkit is to educate early childhood staff and parents about traumatic brain injuries.

## **Typical Development and Basic Brain Anatomy**

This chapter describes brain development and the anatomy of the brain.

## **Definition of Traumatic Brain Injury**

This chapter discusses the definition of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) verses other types of injury to the brain.

## **Mechanisms of Injury and Measuring Severity**

This chapter discusses the causes and describes the differences between mild, moderate and severe TBI.

## **Recovery**

This chapter discusses the recovery processes for mild, moderate and severe TBIs, and includes factors that influence recovery such as injury factors, child factors and environmental factors.

## **Cognitive and Behavioral Impact of TBI**

This chapter discusses the impacts of TBI on the functioning of the child. Domains discussed are physical/sensory, cognitive, behavioral and emotional.

## **How to Help an Injured Child in Your Classroom**

This chapter discusses the educator’s role in assisting a child with TBI.

## **What to Do if a Child is Injured in Your Care**

This chapter discusses how to care for a child injured in your care.

## **How to Recognize TBI in your Classroom**

This chapter discusses the recognition of the signs/symptoms of TBI.



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