

WELCOME!

- Heather Bahme-
WDVA TBI Outreach
Coordinator
- Objectives for the
next hour
 - WDVA TBI Program
 - What is the problem?
 - What can we do?



PRIMARY BLAST INJURY

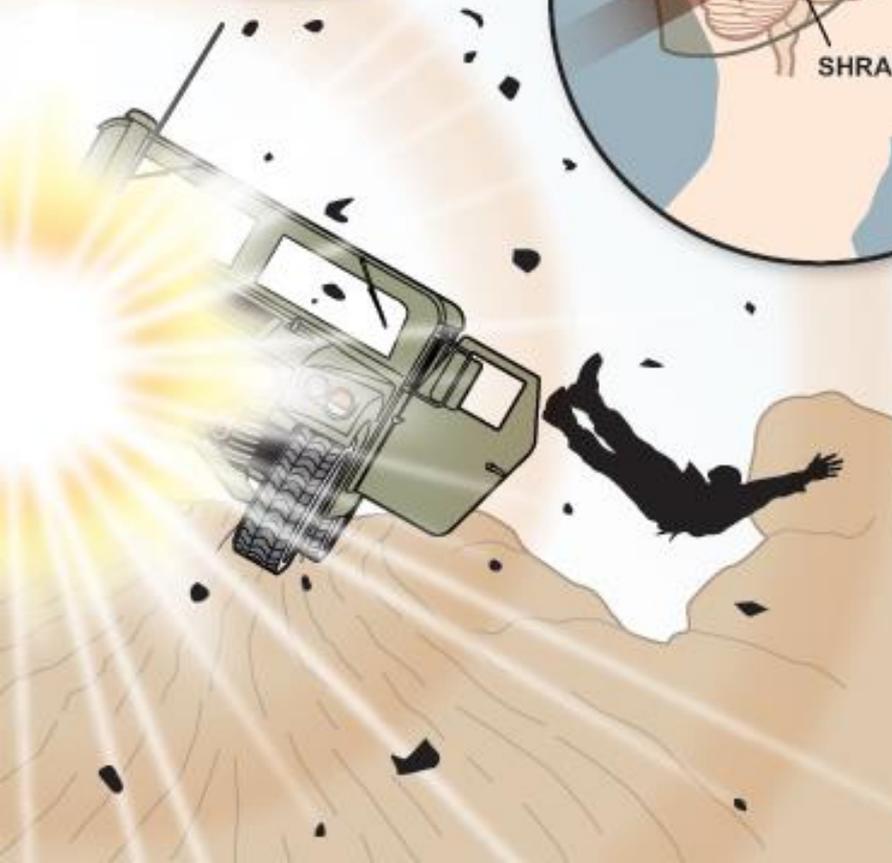
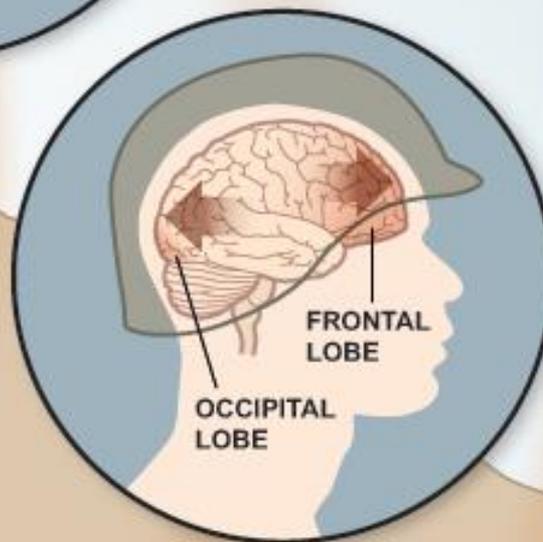
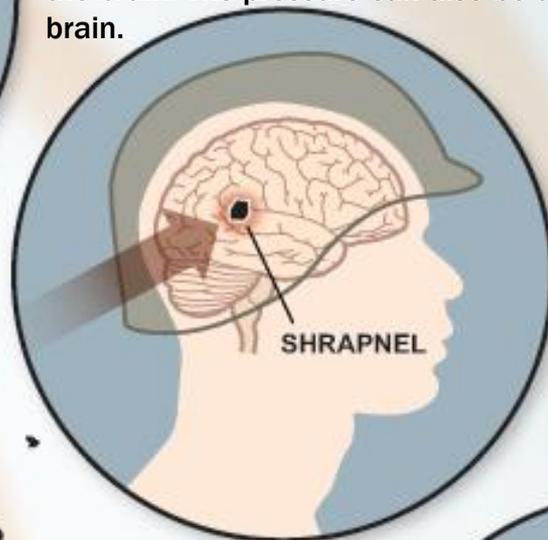
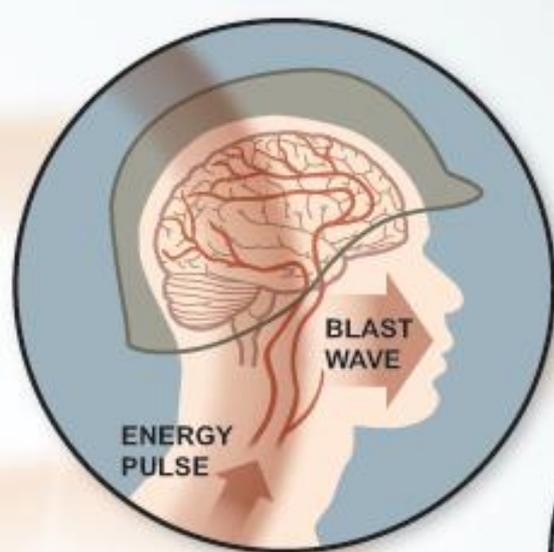
An explosion generates a blast wave traveling faster than sound and creating a surge of high pressure followed by a vacuum. Studies show that the blast wave shoots through armor and soldiers' skulls and brains, even if it doesn't draw blood. While the exact mechanisms by which it damages the brain's cells and circuits are still being studied, the blast wave's pressure has been shown to compress the torso, impacting blood vessels, which send damaging energy pulses into the brain. The pressure can also be transferred partially through the skull, interacting with the brain.

SECONDARY BLAST INJURY

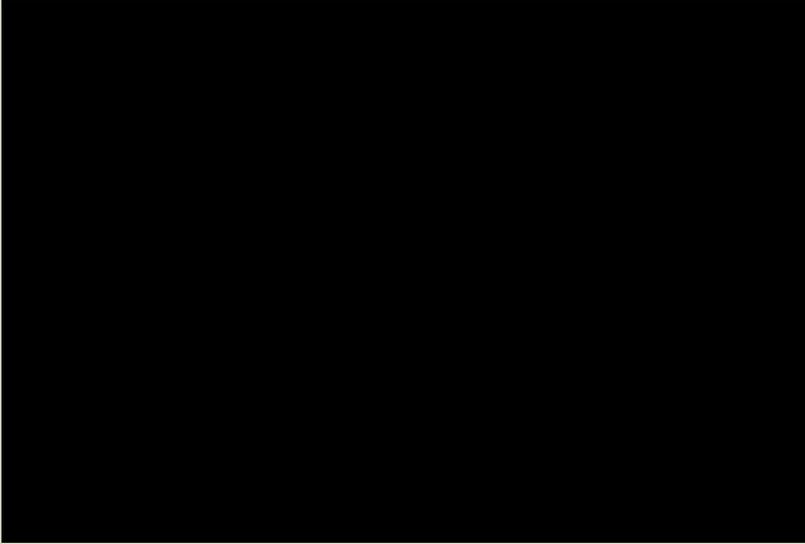
Shrapnel and debris propelled by the blast can strike a soldier's head, causing either a closed-head injury through blunt force or a penetrating head injury that damages brain tissue.

TERTIARY BLAST INJURY

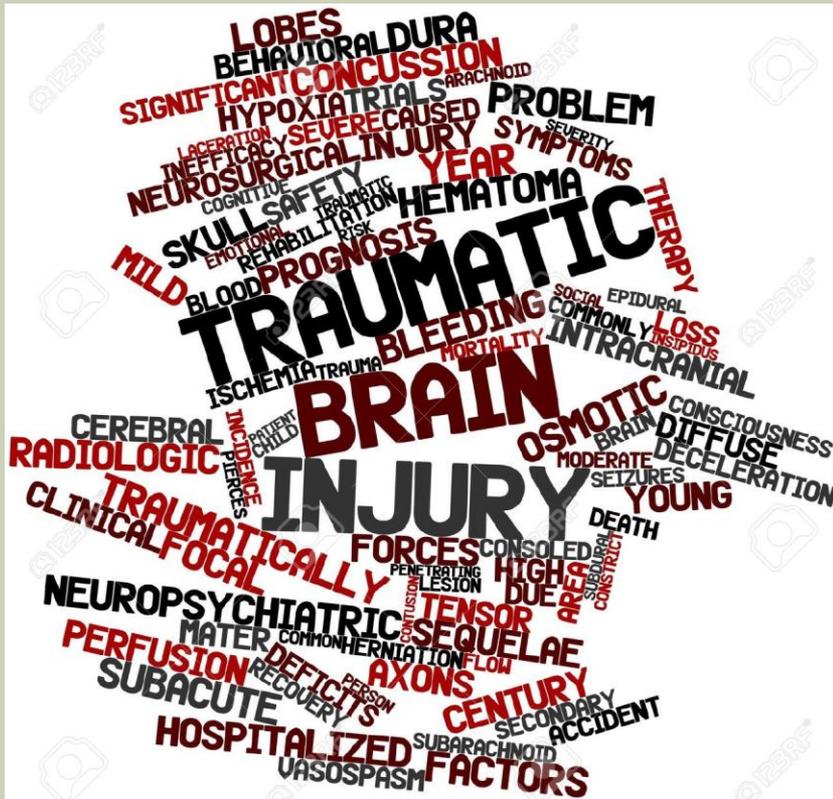
The kinetic energy generated and released by an explosion can accelerate a soldier's body through the air and into the ground or nearby solid object. Once the body stops, the brain continues to move in the direction of the force, hitting the interior of the skull and then bouncing back into the opposite side, causing a coup-contrecoup injury.



TBI Animation Videos



WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?



- Let's re-cap.
- TBI/ABI is a really serious injury that can affect nearly every aspect of a persons life.
- As many as 1 in 5 of combat vets you encounter may have some type of TBI.
- They may or may not know.
- Either way, if they have one they may not know how/why and to what extent it affects their ability to succeed in every aspect of life.
- Left unaddressed it can become worse through learned helplessness.
- ONLY if we know can we hope to help...and we can help.
- Questions?

QUESTIONS...