



Mild TBI and risk of Parkinson's disease: A Chronic effects of neurotrauma consortium study

Purpose

To assess the risk of military Veterans developing Parkinson's disease after sustaining a TBI.

Participants

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) records for patients (n=325,870) were divided into groups labeled, TBI and no TBI, in accordance with the VHA's diagnoses and age matched in this longitudinal study.

How was the study conducted?

Researchers gathered patient information from three sources over a 12-year period of follow-up: the Comprehensive TBI Evaluation database, the inpatient and outpatient visits database, and the Vital Status File database. Risk of Parkinson's disease after TBI was analyzed using Cox proportional hazards models.

Findings

Patients with TBI, including after only mild TBI, were more likely to be diagnosed with Parkinson's disease post-injury compared to age-matched patients without TBI.

Military Impact

Veterans with TBI, including mild TBI, are at increased risk for Parkinson's Disease.

Gardner, R.C., Byers, A.L., Barnes, D.E., Li, Y., Boscardin, J., & Yaffe, K. (2018). Mild TBI and risk of Parkinson's disease: A chronic effects of neurotrauma consortium study. Neurology, 1771-1779.