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The Recognition of Traumatic Brain Injuries as a Risk Factor for Dementia in Military Veterans: A Systematic Review

Jessica M. Monday, ATC, SPT, Julie Maroni, PTA, SPT, and Heather Fritz, PT, DPT

Introduction

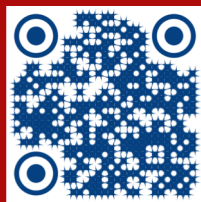
Traumatic brain injuries are a progressive neurodegenerative condition that results in short and long term effects. Military personnel are at a great risk for sustaining a TBI due to their job responsibilities including but not limited to active combat and scenario based training.

Between 2000 and 2013, 300,000 Iraq and Afghanistan war zone veterans were diagnosed with a TBI

Methods

10 articles were included following an electronic search via CINAHL complete, APA PsychInfo, and hand searching.

There is a strong connection between traumatic brain injury and the development of dementia in military veterans.



Scan for more information about TBI and dementia in military veterans

Clinical Relevance

By recognizing TBI as a risk factor, we, as a healthcare community, can identify, diagnose, treat, and educate other individuals with this condition.

Education includes discussing signs and symptoms of dementia with the individual and family allowing for early identification and treatment

