



PÉCSI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM  
ÁLTALÁNOS ORVOSTUDOMÁNYI KAR

# Skull and brain injuries: intervention options

POTECHO:PTE563



Dömse Eszter dr.  
PTE-ÁOK Sportmedicine Center  
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# Definition



# Definition 1.:

Traumatic brain injury: (TBI) refers to a brain injury that is caused by an outside force.



MINOR TRAUMATIC  
**brain injuries**  
(MAKING SURE THEY DON'T  
GET OVERLOOKED)



# Definition 1.:

## Traumatic brain injury:

- ❖ is a global health problem
- ❖ high incidence
- ❖ common long-term consequences



MINOR TRAUMATIC  
**brain injuries**

(MAKING SURE THEY DON'T  
GET OVERLOOKED)



# Definition 2.:

The significance of mild cranial injuries:

- ❖ are beginning to recognize its significance
- ❖ involving a much larger population (15-30x)



MINOR TRAUMATIC  
**brain injuries**  
(MAKING SURE THEY DON'T  
GET OVERLOOKED)






# Age and gender distribution:



- ❖ common in the young age group
- ❖ twice as common among men
- ❖ a high proportion of the elderly population



# Incidence:

- ❖ **USA:** approx. 1-2 million people / year
  - ❖ **United Kingdom:** approx. 1 million people / year
  - ❖ **Europe:** 2.5 million people / year
  - ❖ **Hungary:** 20000 people / year (2000 people serious, -10-15% die on scene )
- 

# The most common causes of skull injuries:

- ❖ Traffic accidents
- ❖ Physical violence, abuse
- ❖ falls from a height
- ❖ gunshot wounds, stab wounds
- ❖ Sports and recreation activities
- ❖ Explosions, attacks in war zones







# Risk factors for traumatic brain injury:

- ❖ Drug and alcohol intoxication
- ❖ Violation of traffic rules
- ❖ Lack of protective clothing or improper use



# Classification of skull injuries



# Classification of skull injuries :

1. open or closed (anatomical classification)
2. focal or diffuse or mass lesions (pathological classification)
3. severe, moderate / moderate or mild (severity)
4. Speed of force application
5. Pathobiology: **primary / direct damage, secondary damage**



# 1. Anatomical Classification:

## Open injuries:

- ❖ Injuries which penetrate the skull and meninges
- ❖ or skull base fractures: the liquor space is indirectly in contact with the external environment through the sinuses



# 1. Anatomical Classification:

## Open injuries:

- ❖ Consequences:
  - ❖ impression fracture,
  - ❖ foreign body,
  - ❖ haematoma,
  - ❖ oedema,
  - ❖ secondary infection,
  - ❖ pneumatocele (air tumor)





# 1. Anatomical Classification: Closed injuries (**dura mater intact**):

- ❖ **Consequences:**
  - ❖ contusion,
  - ❖ axon injury,
  - ❖ oedema,
  - ❖ epidural and subdural haematoma





## 2. Pathological classification:

- ❖ **focal:**
  - ❖ subdural bleeding,
  - ❖ epidural bleeding,
  - ❖ contusion (mainly in the frontal and temporal lobes)
- ❖ **diffuse**



### 3. Types of head mechanical forces



- ❖ **static / slow force:** multiple cranial fractures or cerebral compression due to adequate compressive force.
- ❖ **dynamic / fast force:**
  - ❖ impulsive (sudden movement of the skull due to force on the body)
  - ❖ impact (direct impact / impact on the skull)

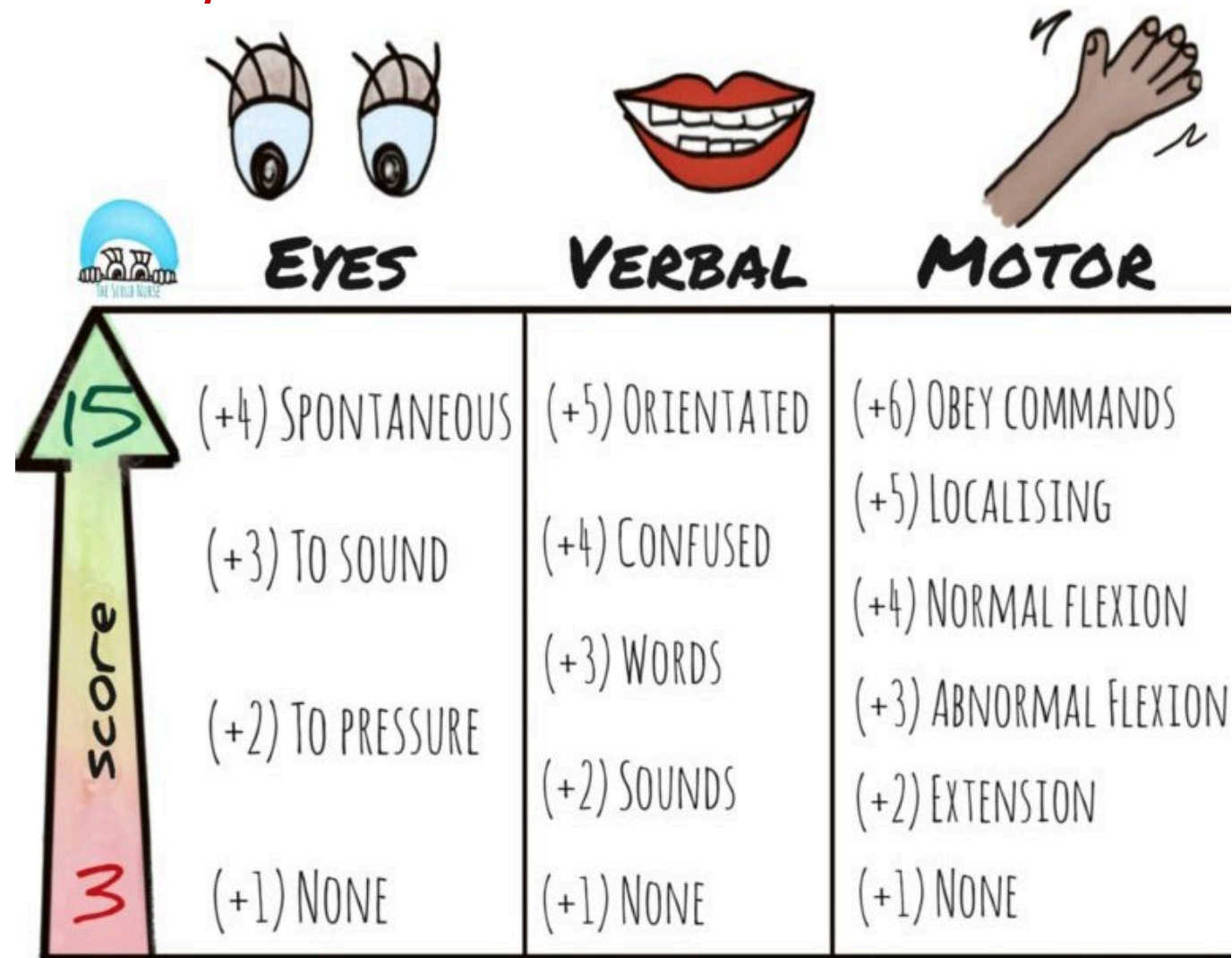


4. severe, moderate / moderate or mild  
(severity)

## Glasgow Coma Scale(GCS):

- ❖  $\leq 8$  - severe
- ❖ 9-12 - moderate / moderate
- ❖ 13-15 - mild

# 4. severe, moderate / moderate or mild (severity)



The diagram illustrates the Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) with a vertical arrow on the left labeled 'score' ranging from 3 at the bottom to 15 at the top. The scale is divided into three columns: EYES, VERBAL, and MOTOR. Each column lists five levels of response, from (+1) NONE at the bottom to (+4) SPONTANEOUS for eyes, (+5) ORIENTATED for verbal, and (+6) OBEY COMMANDS for motor at the top. Above each column is a corresponding illustration: eyes, a smiling mouth, and a hand.

|                  | EYES             | VERBAL          | MOTOR                 |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| (+4) SPONTANEOUS | (+4) SPONTANEOUS | (+5) ORIENTATED | (+6) OBEY COMMANDS    |
| (+3) TO SOUND    | (+3) TO SOUND    | (+4) CONFUSED   | (+5) LOCALISING       |
| (+2) TO PRESSURE | (+2) TO PRESSURE | (+3) WORDS      | (+4) NORMAL FLEXION   |
| (+1) NONE        | (+1) NONE        | (+2) SOUNDS     | (+3) ABNORMAL FLEXION |
| (+1) NONE        | (+1) NONE        | (+1) NONE       | (+2) EXTENSION        |
| (+1) NONE        | (+1) NONE        | (+1) NONE       | (+1) NONE             |

**GLASGOW COMA SCALE**

# 4. severe, moderate / moderate or mild

(severity)

## Glasgow Kóma Skála (GCS):

| Vizsgált válasz             |                            | Pontszám      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Legjobb szemnyitási reakció | Spontán                    | 4             |
|                             | Felszólításra              | 3             |
|                             | Fájdalomra                 | 2             |
|                             | Nincs szemnyitás           | 1             |
| Legjobb motoros reakció     | Felszólításnak eleget tesz | 6             |
|                             | Lokalizálja a fájdalmat    | 5             |
|                             | Védekezik a fájdalom ellen | 4             |
|                             | Fájdalomingerre flexió     | 3             |
|                             | Fájdalomingerre extenzió   | 2             |
|                             | Nincs motoros válasz       | 1             |
| Legjobb verbális válasz     | Tájékozott                 | 5             |
|                             | Zavart                     | 4             |
|                             | Oda nem illő szavak        | 3             |
|                             | Érthetetlen hangok         | 2             |
|                             | Nincs verbális válasz      | 1             |
|                             |                            | Összesen 3–15 |

## 5. Pathobiology:

- ❖ **primary / direct damage:** damage that occurs at the time of injury;
  - ❖ intracranial haemorrhage,
  - ❖ cerebral haemorrhage,
  - ❖ diffuse axonal damage,
  - ❖ fracture, etc.
  
- ❖ **secondary damage:** secondary abnormalities occurring **immediately following trauma** as a result of a combination of different complicating processes.



# Diagnosis of traumatic brain injuries :





- ❖ Laboratory tests:

- ❖ Ongoing research biomarkers, INR

- ❖ Imaging tests:

- ❖ Focal lesions, cerebral contusions could relatively easily be identified by CT scan

- ❖ Magnetic resonance (MR) examination





# Incidence of traumatic brain injury in sports

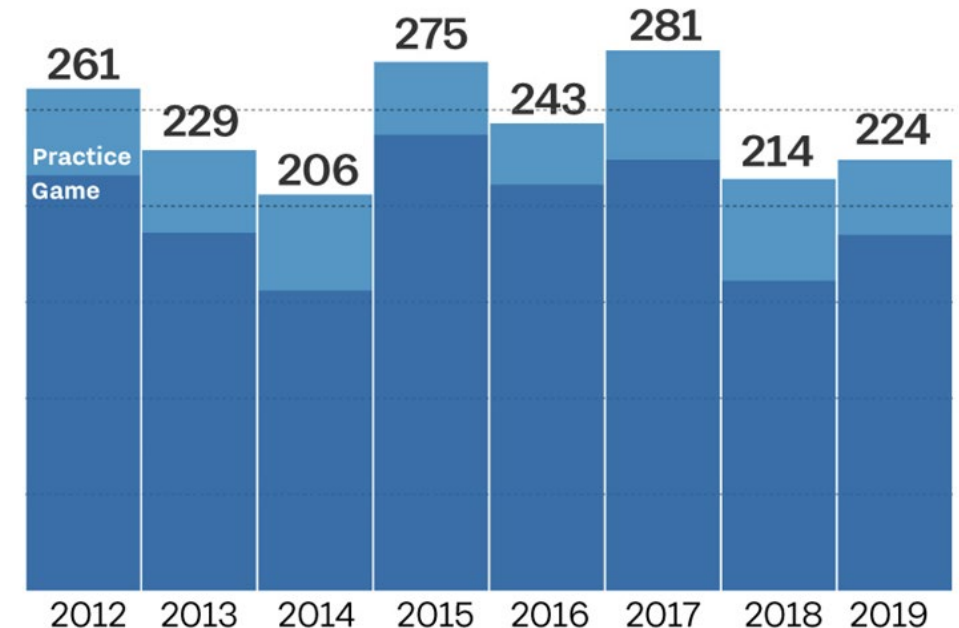
- ❖ **Concession** is a closed head injury that affects the head as a result of some sudden external force (s), during which the brain hits the inner surface of the skull, leading to its damage and dysfunction.
- ❖ Concession may occur
- ❖ without visible symptoms (asymptomatic subconcession)
- ❖ or accompanied by a number of symptoms (symptomatic concession).

# Concession is common in contact sports:

- ❖ american football
- ❖ rugby
- ❖ ice hockey
- ❖ boxing / kick-boxing
- ❖ lacrosse
- ❖ wrestling
- ❖ karate

## Concussions in the NFL by year

*Preseason and regular season*




Source: NFL



# Concession in other sports:

- ❖ the horseback riding
- ❖ skiing,
- ❖ parachuting





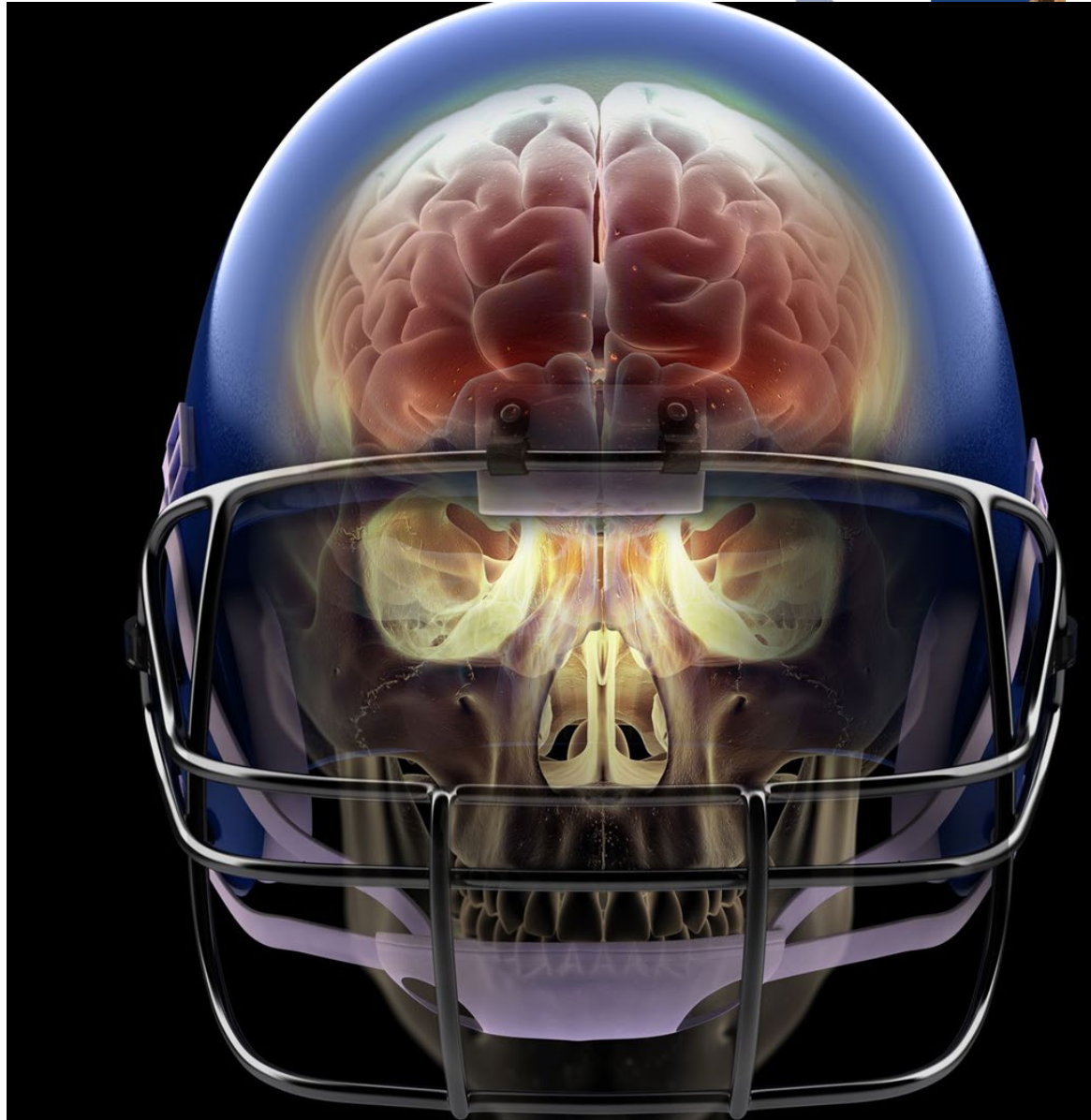
# Neuropsychological consequences:

- ❖ neuro-psychological deficits
- ❖ cognitive dysfunction
- ❖ concentration disorder
- ❖ memorial and attention deficit disorder



# Chronic traumatic encephalopathy:

- ❖ dementia pugilistica / parkinsonism pugilistica
- ❖ punch-drunk syndrome
- ❖ chronic traumatic encephalopathy



# Progressive neuro-degenerative disease

- ❖ **Cognitive deficits** (eg. memory, attention, language impairment)
- ❖ **Emotional disorders** (eg. depression, anxiety)
- ❖ **Behavioral disorders** (eg. impulse control disorder, aggression)
- ❖ **Musculoskeletal disorders** (eg symptoms of parkinsonism: tremor, stiffness, slowness)
- ❖ **Personality change**
- ❖ **Social difficulties**
- ❖ **Suicide** (suicide attempts)



# Prevention:

- ❖ control and screening
- ❖ using appropriate imaging techniques
- ❖ emphasizing a multidisciplinary approach
- ❖ Protective equipments and clothes



# Köszönöm a megtisztelő figyelmet!

