

ISEF Sample Abstract & Certification

Predictors of Anxiety 1 Year After Traumatic Brain Injury

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Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a major public health concern in the United States which can cause negative lasting mental health impacts including increased anxiety. Post TBI anxiety has been associated with negative outcomes such as poor social functioning and a decline in independent living. This study was conducted in order to determine the predictors of anxiety one year after TBI. Data was collected from the TBIMS database, a longitudinal, multicenter database containing information on over 17,000 patients hospitalized for TBI. Within the database participants were selected based on the presence of accurate anxiety score data at one year post injury. The TBIMS anxiety scores were the total scores from the Traumatic Brain Injury Quality of Life (TBI-QOL) measurement system. Statistical analysis was run in SPSS in order to determine which selected variables significantly predicted anxiety at one year post injury. It was found that household income, age at injury, sex, race, and pre-injury mental health treatment were all independently significantly related to anxiety. This highlights the importance of psychosocial variables in predicting anxiety one year after traumatic brain injury.

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1. As a part of this research project, the student directly handled, manipulated, or interacted with (check all that apply):
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