

Participants who access Teaching Research Institute TBI support services frequently report relief as they discover answers and ways of more effectively dealing with students who were previously unresponsive.

There are not words to express my gratitude to this group of outstanding professionals for their response to our distress call for help. The training that I received helped me in developing effective teaching methods and designing a curriculum that was meaningful and realistic for (this student with TBI). There was a vast impact on all of the individuals working with (this student) in the school setting as a result of the Team efforts.

*~Oregon Special Education Teacher
following TBI TEAM consultation*

When I went to the training on behavioral interventions, I realized we've always focused on the consequences to correct problem behavior. I left with this real focus on trying to dissect the antecedents instead of coming up with more consequences. It has really changed the way that I approach dealing with the youngsters.

*~Special Education Consultant
after attending a TRI training*

***OBIRN** is an absolutely fantastic service!! I am so appreciative of the assistance and am very impressed with the range of up to date information she posted me within a few days. Thanks you so much for assisting my research into educating children with TBI.*

~Classroom Teacher

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THE
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WHAT IS DIFFERENT ABOUT TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ?

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TBI HAS A HEAVY IMPACT ON THE STUDENT, FAMILY, AND EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY

TBI impacts a student's ability to learn and perform in cognitive, academic, behavioral, and social realms in ways that are often unpredictable and confusing. A student may also exhibit:

- ◆ impulsivity,
- ◆ profound emotional changes,
- ◆ changes in judgment, and
- ◆ aggressiveness.

Although students with TBI may share some common characteristics, all students with TBI have unique needs, which makes individual planning and intervention strategies essential for educational success.

The effects of TBI may not be immediately apparent, with educational concerns arising well after resolution of the medical crisis. Because of this, issues arising from TBI may be wrongly attributed to development (*he's being a typical teenager*) or willful misconduct (*she is just trying to get attention*). This may result in promotion of ineffective or even harmful attempts to effect change in the student.



TBI IS UNDER-IDENTIFIED

A comparison of current TBI child count figures with injury rates documents that students with TBI are significantly under-identified. The Oregon Special Education Census for 2004-2005 indicates only 279 school age students eligible for special education under the category of TBI. However, each year, approximately 500 children and youth in Oregon, ages 5-19, are hospitalized with moderate to severe brain injuries (OR DHS, 1999).

Based on national averages, it can be estimated that approximately 250 of these children will be left with significant alterations in functioning. That is the expected number of Oregon students with functional limitations due to TBI would total approximately 3,000 across grades K-12.

However, there is a gap between the predicted number of students and those being served in schools under 504, Special Ed or other programs.



HELP IS AVAILABLE!

In Oregon, educators can access technical assistance, training and support through the Teaching Research Institute and Oregon Department of Education in the following ways:

TBI Regional Liaisons

The state of Oregon is divided into regions to better serve students with low incidence disabilities. Each region is assigned a part-time liaison to work with trained TBI Consulting team members and schools and families of students with TBI

TBI Consulting Teams

These interdisciplinary regional teams of consultants offer training and consultation to educators working with students with TBI.

Statewide TBI Trainings

Throughout the academic year we will be conducting four trainings: TBI overview, Behavior, Academic Success and Communication & Families. Led by Nationally recognized experts in the field of TBI, trainings are open to educators and other school personnel from across the state for a nominal fee.

Oregon Brain Injury Resource Network OBIRN

The OBIRN library provides information to individuals with brain injury, their families, and the professionals who serve them. Services include personalized literature and resource searches.

Website

The TBI Educator website is designed to assist Oregon educators learn more about brain injury, identify, evaluate, plan assistive technology, write IEPs for students with TBI and help with transitions. It has information and tools to assist serving students with Brain Injury. This is a new site and portions will be in progress as the year unfolds. www.tbied.org

For information regarding any of the above services please contact Pat Sublette

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