

mild traumatic brain injury can have serious and long lasting effects

https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/what-is-dementia/related_conditions/traumatic-brain-injury

Doctors classify traumatic brain injury as mild, moderate or severe, depending on whether the injury causes unconsciousness, how long unconsciousness lasts and the severity of symptoms. Although most traumatic brain injuries are classified as mild because they're not life-threatening, even a mild traumatic brain injury can have serious and long-lasting effects; the extent of these effects is not fully understood and requires more research.

Some of these injuries are considered primary — damage and symptoms are immediate. Other outcomes of TBI can be secondary — they can occur gradually over hours or days, or appear weeks later. These secondary brain injuries are the result of reactive processes that occur after the initial head trauma.

TBI resulting from an impact to the head disrupts normal brain function and is a threat to cognitive health in two ways:

1. A traumatic brain injury's direct effects — which may be long-lasting or even permanent — can include unconsciousness, inability to recall the traumatic event, depression, confusion, difficulty learning and remembering new information, trouble speaking coherently, unsteadiness, lack of coordination and problems with vision or hearing.
2. Certain types of TBI may increase the risk of developing Alzheimer's or another type of dementia years after the injury takes place.