

AFTER THE INJURY: ACUTE CARE AND TBI

Discussion Questions

- Dr. Bazarian lists the physical exam and CAT scan as two tools that emergency room doctors have to diagnose a traumatic brain injury. How are they problematic? How does this affect research on treatments for TBI?
- The first clip shown in the webcast tells us about closed and penetrating brain injuries. How are they different and how might that difference affect the outcome for the person with a TBI?
- Treatment for a person's TBI can vary from hospital to hospital. What can families do to ensure their loved ones are receiving the highest standard of care?
- This webcast features a clip from a video by the National Road Safety Foundation called “The Other Breakfast Club.” (The full length video is available on the multimedia page of BrainLine.org.) Kelley and Dave meet up with other young people who have experienced TBIs as a result of car crashes. What is the value of groups like “The Other Breakfast Club”? How can this story be used to influence Kelley and Dave’s peers?
- When a loved one has experienced a traumatic brain injury, the amount of medical information that needs to be digested by the family in a very short time is enormous. Dr. Mouratidis lists one of the responsibilities of the multidisciplinary team treating a patient as moderating that flow of information so it is not so overwhelming. Besides treating the patient, what else can the team do to help families? What can families do to work best with the team under such trying circumstances?
- Dr. Mouratidis talks about how the military’s treatment of TBI has advanced our collective knowledge on treating traumatic brain injuries. What has the military learned that you think would be well applied in the civilian setting?
- Dr. Mouratidis closes her remarks asking us not to forget hope. How can hope be best preserved in such a tough situation?