

What is an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI)?

Not all brain injuries are acquired brain injuries.

To have an acquired brain injury, the survivor must have hurt his or her brain during his or her lifetime. The damage is the result of an injury or an illness.

Examples of acquired brain injuries include:

- Strokes
- Brain tumours
- Traumatic injury (Ex: blow to the head)
- Brain infections (Ex: meningitis, encephalitis)
- Lack of oxygen (Ex: a near-drowning incident)
- Violent shaking (Ex: Shaken Baby Syndrome)

Some possible symptoms/ effects of an ABI can include:

- Fatigue
- Change of personality
- Headaches
- Speech difficulties
- Memory problems
- Lack of initiation
- Mood swings
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Low or high sex drive
- Seizures
- Balance problems
- Visual problems
- Problems with concentration
- Loss of the use of a limb
- Anger problems
- Loss of consciousness

Goals of the ABI Program

- To make the most of a person's abilities.
- To work with communities to adapt their existing services to meet the needs of the person with an acquired brain injury.
- To work with families and caregivers to maintain their own health and quality of life.
- To educate clients, family members and the community about ABI issues.
- To be an ongoing contact for support, follow-up, evaluation and education.

**Prevention and
Education Activities the
ABI Coordinator can
assist you with:**



- ¶ Living With Stroke™
- ¶ Brain Walk
- ¶ Medical Scooter
Awareness Program
- ¶ Bicycle Safety
- ¶ Farm Safety
- ¶ Water Safety
- ¶ Playground Safety
- ¶ General Acquired Brain
Injury Education
- ¶ Individual Education
- ¶ Health Fairs
- ¶ School Presentations
- ¶ Snowmobile Safety
- ¶ ATV Safety

**For more information,
please contact:**

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**Acquired
Brain Injury
Program
(ABI)**

*...improving the quality of
life for individuals with
acquired brain injuries and
their families...educating
communities, care givers,
families, and individuals.*



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