

Symptom Reporting Guide

This guide gives you some of the things to report about your loved one's symptoms when they are being seen by a doctor for their traumatic brain injury—whether it's in an emergency room setting or a non-crisis situation.

A traumatic brain injury (TBI) is defined as a blow or jolt to the head or a penetrating head injury impacting brain function. The severity and effects of the TBI will vary based on the part of the brain injured, and how extensive the injury is. In addition to the memory and reason, a TBI may impact language, emotion, and sensation.

A huge part of being caregiver means reporting on or tracking your loved one's symptoms. These can be newly developed symptoms or existing symptoms that you, your loved one, or another member your loved one's care team may have noticed. You may be talking about these symptoms as part of a doctor's visit or you may be going over these symptoms in an Emergency Room.

- When did you first notice the new symptom or the change in the existing symptom?
- What was your loved one doing at the time?
- Did this symptom develop or change suddenly, or did it occur gradually?
- Has your loved one taken any medication for this new or changing symptom since it was first noted? Any other kind of medical intervention?

