

Key Points Summary

Kennedy E, Panahi S, Stewart IJ, Tate DF, Wilde EA, Kenney K, Werner JK, Gill J, Diaz-Arrastia R, Amuan M, Van Cott AC, Pugh MJ. Traumatic Brain Injury and Early Onset Dementia in Post 9-11 Veterans. Brain Inj. 2022 Apr 16;36(5):620-627. doi: 10.1080/02699052.2022.2033846. Epub 2022 Feb 5. PMID: 35125061; PMCID: PMC9187585.

Primary Question this Study Addresses

Are TBI and TBI-related sequelae such as epilepsy associated with emergence of early onset dementia in Post-9/11 Veterans?

Study Findings That Add to Our Knowledge

This matched case-control study found that epilepsy, self-reported memory problems, TBI, other neurological conditions (e.g., anoxic brain injury, encephalopathy, Parkinson's disease), cardiovascular disease and depression were significantly associated with emergence of early onset dementia defined as frontotemporal dementia or Alzheimer's dementia.

How Study Evidence Might Be Used in Practice

History of TBI, related sequelae such as epilepsy or Parkinson's disease, cardiovascular disease, and depression may be predictors of early onset dementia.

Clinicians may consider promoting healthy lifestyle and prevention efforts for cardiovascular disease beginning early in adulthood to reduce disease development and risk for early onset dementia.

For more information on promoting healthy lifestyles:



To access the study abstract, click here:



Abstract

This work was supported by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs endorsed by the Department of Defense, through the Psychological Health/Traumatic Brain Injury Research Program Long-Term Impact of Military-Relevant Brain Injury Consortium (LIMBIC) Award/W81XWH-18-PH/TBIRP-LIMBIC under Awards No. W81XWH1920067 and W81XWH-13-2-0095, and by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Awards No. 101 CX002097, 101 CX002096, 101 HX003155, 101 HX003444, 1