

Key Points Summary

Dennis EL, Taylor BA, Newsome MR, Troyanskaya M, Abildskov TJ, Betts AM, et al. Advanced brain age in deployment-related traumatic brain injury: A LIMBIC-CENC neuroimaging study. Brain Inj. 2022 Apr 16;36(5):662-672. doi: 10.1080/02699052.2022. 2033844. Epub 2022 Feb 5. PMID: 35125044; PMCID: PMC9187589.

Primary Question this Study Addresses

Is history of mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) associated with advanced and/or accelerated brain aging among United States (US) military Service Members and Veterans?

Study Findings That Add to Our Knowledge

Brain age was estimated from MRI data. Males with a history of deployment-related mTBI show advanced brain aging.

Several common comorbidities, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and alcohol misuse were also associated with advanced brain age.

How Study Evidence Might Be Used in Practice

Deployment-related mTBI, depression, PTSD and heavy alcohol use may have long-term impacts on the brain health of Service Members and Veterans. Brain age estimated from neuroimaging data may be a useful biomarker.

Clinicians may consider making healthy lifestyle recommendations and should query whether patients with depression and/or PTSD are getting the care that they need.

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To access the study abstract, click here:

Abstract

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