



PARKINSON'S DISEASE NEWS

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HEAD INJURY AND THE RISK OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Movement Disorders [2013] Apr 22 [Epub ahead of print] (S.Jafari, M.Etminan, F. Aminzadeh, A.Samii)

Head trauma has long been implicated as one of the causes of Parkinson's Disease. Researchers recently assessed people with Parkinson's Disease who had head trauma so serious that it had led to concussion. They conducted a sensitivity analysis to assess the influence of each study. After reviewing more than 636 article titles, 34 articles were selected for full review. In total, 22 studies were included in the assessment.

The association of Parkinson's Disease and head trauma was 1.57 (1.35-1.83), meaning that head trauma causing concussion makes Parkinson's Disease more than one and half times more likely. So although head trauma makes Parkinson's Disease more likely it is not inevitable. Further analysis of the results might have shown that very severe head injury or certain types of head injury were largely responsible for the increased likelihood of Parkinson's Disease following head trauma.

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