

**MANY
RETURNING
WAR VETERANS
ARE BEING
DIAGNOSED
WITH
TRAUMATIC
BRAIN INJURY.**

**YOU ARE NOT
ALONE.**

CALL US.

WE CAN HELP.

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**Hospital for
Special Care**
We Rebuild Lives.
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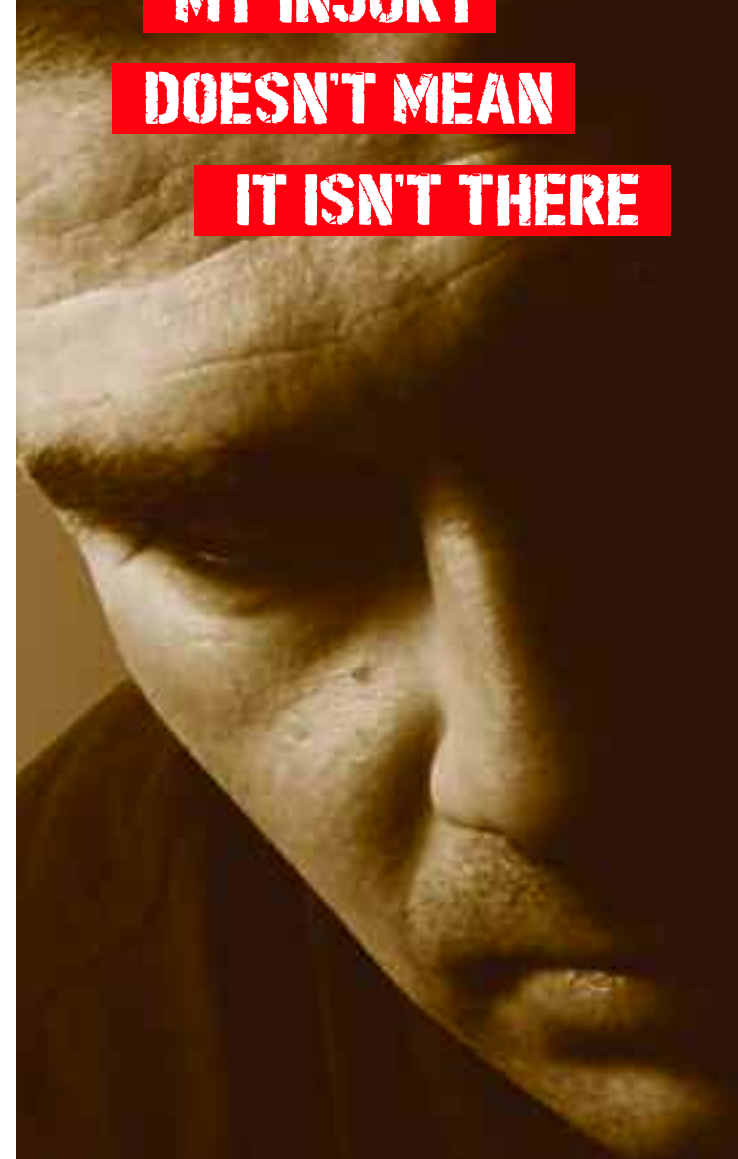
JUST BECAUSE

YOU CAN'T SEE

MY INJURY

DOESN'T MEAN

IT ISN'T THERE



GET SCREENED. EMERGE FROM THE SHADOWS.

WHAT IS TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY?

Brain Injury (including concussion) can occur in a number of ways, including exposure to a blast, a blow to the head, the head striking an object, or a lack of oxygen.

“Shell shock” and “getting your bell rung” are the common terms that can be heard daily from service men and women for traumatic brain injuries (TBI), which have been identified as signature wounds of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

“IT FEELS SO GOOD TO BE HOME. I HAVE MISSED MY FAMILY SO MUCH. I NEED TO CATCH UP ON ALL I’VE MISSED...”

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

More than 1.5 million U.S. military personnel have deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan since the start of military operations in 2001. Improved protective equipment has resulted in a higher percentage of soldiers surviving injuries that would have been fatal in previous wars.

TBI can result in one or more of the following symptoms:

- a brief loss of consciousness
- loss of memory immediately before or after the injury
- any alteration in mental state at the time of the accident
- persistent post-concussive symptoms, such as irritability, memory problems, headache, and difficulty concentrating

In many TBI cases, the injured person seems fine on the surface, yet continues to endure chronic functional problems. It isn’t easy to see or to ‘put your finger on’ what is wrong, but the injury is real, and it requires treatment.

Some people suffer long-term effects of TBI and may experience significant changes in cognition and personality, such as moodiness and mild insomnia.

Concern has emerged about the possible long-term effects of deployment-related head injuries, particularly those resulting from proximity to blast explosions.



“I DIDN’T WANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT I WAS FEELING OUT OF PLACE AND DIFFERENT. AFTER BEING SCREENED FOR TBI, I NOW UNDERSTAND WHY I FEEL THIS WAY.”

Hospital for Special Care is regionally known for its expertise in brain injury and neurobehavioral programs. We are committed to helping you and your family understand the issues surrounding brain injury and strive to support you in finding appropriate resources.

You are not alone. Many other soldiers and their families are having the same experiences you are. Please encourage them to take the first step with you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call us today at **(860) 612-6310**
or email us at vetsoutreach@hfsc.org.
Visit us online at www.hfsc.org.