

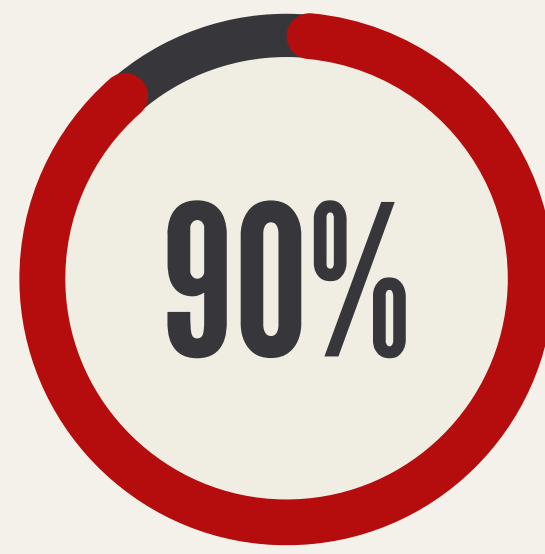


# The Network

## Traumatic Brain Injury from Domestic Violence

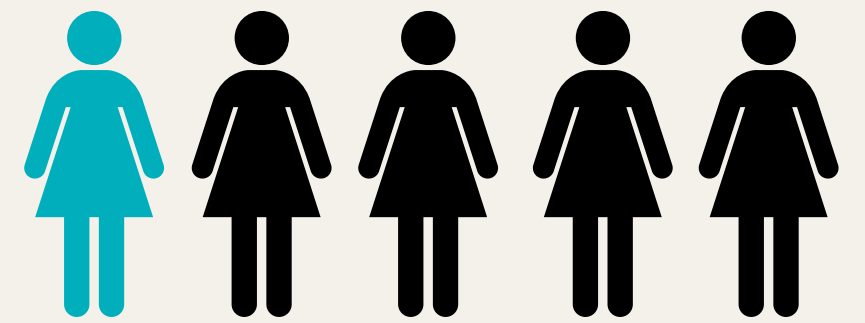
### Facts about TBI and Domestic Violence

- More than 90% of all injuries from domestic violence are to the head, neck, or face.
- At least 30% of domestic violence victims report a loss of consciousness from abuse.
- 2/3rds of victims report they have long lasting problems from head injuries.
- Women who seek medical attention for head injuries are 7.5 times more likely to be victims of abuse than women with other bodily injuries.
- Only 1 in 5 women will seek medical attention for TBIs from domestic violence.



of injuries from DV are to head, neck or face

but only 1 in 5 women seek treatment



### How does DV cause TBIs?

- Hitting the head with an object.
- Punching, kicking, or hitting the face or head.
- Shaking and whiplash.
- A push down stairs or on to the floor.
- Loss of oxygen from strangulation, suffocation, or attempted drowning.
- Banging head on the wall or headboard during assault.

### Side Effects of TBI

- Depression, anxiety, loss of emotional control
- Difficulty communicating, inability to get along with others
- Increased risk taking, increased impulsivity
- Memory loss, impatience, socially inappropriate behavior
- Disorganization, poor motor function, personality changes
- Sleep disorders, headaches, migraines, hearing and vision changes
- Can mimic symptoms of trauma from abuse and/or mental illness so it can be difficult to identify

### When working with someone who may have a traumatic brain injury:

- Be patient and minimize distractions
- Write down information to help with memory loss
- Assist in prioritizing goals
- Focus on one issue at a time
- Give the patient breaks in conversation to recover
- Use Yes/No questions when possible
- Ask if the injury is the result of domestic violence
- Provide resources for victims and survivors of domestic violence
- Provide support and validation