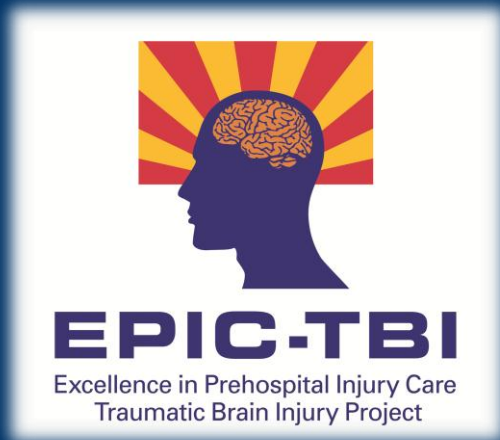


ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTING THE EMS TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY TREATMENT GUIDELINES



Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Background:

- About 1.4 million people suffer TBI each year and are seen in emergency departments in the U.S.
- 235,000 are hospitalized
- 50,000 die
- 5.3 million Americans (2%) require long term assistance with daily activities

Why is the Excellence in Prehospital Injury Care (EPIC) Project important?

- There is growing evidence that the management of TBI in the early minutes after injury profoundly impacts outcome. EMS operates in the ultra-acute setting, usually providing the first care for TBI victims when treatment matters the most. Reports on implementation of evidence-based TBI treatment guidelines *inside the hospital* are very promising. However, no studies to date have evaluated their impact in the *prehospital* setting.
- The EMS agencies of Arizona have already proven their ability to dramatically improve cardiac arrest survival and, thus, Arizona was selected by the National Institutes of Health to do the same with TBI.

How will the Excellence in Prehospital Injury Care Project work?

- EPIC Project educators will train Arizona prehospital providers on the latest nationally-vetted TBI guidelines and the EPIC data team will assist with the TBI data collection process.
- The EPIC Project is designed as a large, prospective, historically controlled, observational study. EMS records of severe TBI victims who are taken to Trauma Centers both prior to and after implementation of the evidence based TBI treatment guidelines will be compared for changes in mortality, ICU/hospital length of stay, and other outcomes.
- Key quality of care information will be given to each participating agency to assist them in their on-going internal quality improvement program to impact the outcomes of TBI.

How long will the EPIC Project last?

We anticipate five years.

How can my EMS agency participate?

Simply provide us the contact person for your agency and we will work with them to implement data collection and education on the treatment changes that will optimize TBI care and patient outcomes in your EMS system.

For more information,
please contact:
Bruce Barnhart RN at
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Or 602-827-2140



In partnership with Arizona EMS Agencies

Thank you for your commitment to providing the highest quality prehospital care.

Dan Spaite, M.D. & Ben Bobrow, M.D.
Excellence in Prehospital Injury Care Project
Co-Principal Investigators