

BRAIN INJURY SCREENING



INTERESTED IN CREATING A MORE BRAIN INJURY INFORMED PROGRAM?

By screening for life-time history of brain injury, your team will help shed a light on brain injury and be better positioned to support the unique cognitive needs your clients with brain injury may present.

The brain injury screening tools capture information using evidence-based questions about an individual's lifetime history of events that may have resulted in a brain injury. Iowa currently subscribes to the Online Brain Injury Screening and Support System (OBISS) for as a recommended brain injury screening tool. This is recommended for individuals ages 13 and older. When the screening tool is complete, the results will be emailed to the address entered at the time of the screening interview.

For individuals with a positive screening, individuals are encouraged to complete the Symptoms Questionnaire to identify possible accommodation needs and receive a customized list of tip sheets. Screeners are encouraged to make a warm referral to Brain Injury Resource Facilitation (BIRF) services by calling 855-444-6443 or emailing info@biaia.org. BIRF provides education, systems navigation support and advocacy at no cost to the participant.

To register your organization for access to these on-demand screening tools, or to request either a paper version of the screening tool or the tool in languages other than English, please email brain.injury@hhs.iowa.gov as well.

Visit <https://yourlifeiowa.org/brain-injury> or scan the QR code to learn more and view other available resources.



On demand,
electronic
screening tool



Results emailed
to your inbox



Downloadable
brain injury tip
sheets



SCAN ME

BRAIN INJURY SCREENING

Frequently Asked Questions

<https://yourlifeiowa.org/brain-injury>

Why was I screened for brain injury?

Sometimes people don't realize they have had a brain injury. A brain injury can be caused by many kinds of events. Screening is a way to find out if you had any events that put you at risk for a brain injury.

What is a brain injury?

A brain injury is a sudden injury that causes damage to your brain. Some are caused by a bump or blow to the head or body. Lack of oxygen, an illness or an infection can also cause a brain injury. Concussions and strokes are types of brain injury. A brain injury can affect your thinking, memory, or speech. Emotions, sleep, and behavior can also change after a brain injury. Sometimes these changes can last for a long time.

What is the benefit of screening?

Identifying a possible brain injury may explain some of the challenges you may be having. And it can help you and your providers to identify the right accommodations and services to support you better.

Wouldn't I know if I had a brain injury?

Not necessarily. Not everyone seeks medical care for an injury that can cause a brain injury. Or you may not realize that challenges you are experiencing are symptoms of a brain injury.

What does it mean if I "screen positive"?

Screening "positive" means you have had an event or several events that could result in a brain injury. It is important to know that a positive screening does not provide a brain injury diagnosis. Instead, it is a way to assess your risk for having challenges related to brain injury.

What should I do next?

- Review your screening results with the professional who screened you.
- Identify what symptoms you have by taking the Symptoms Questionnaire. The OBISS system will create symptom tip sheets to learn more about how to manage your symptoms.
- Consider taking a functional assessment, like the Mayo-Portland Adaptability Inventory-4, to learn more about how a brain injury may impact your daily life.
- Sign up for Brain Injury Resource Facilitation (BIRF). BIRF is a free service you can use to learn more about brain injury. They can also give you options of services and supports in your community. Call 855-444-6443 or email info@biaia.org to speak to a BIRF staff person.