

Discharge Destination from Acute Care after Traumatic Brain Injury

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INTRODUCTION

Treatment for traumatic brain injury (TBI) is expensive, and availability of insurance coverage not surprisingly influences which treatments can be provided.

Persons with TBI who were insured by commercial fee-for-service plans were more likely to get post-acute care in rehabilitation facilities. (US Study)

AIM

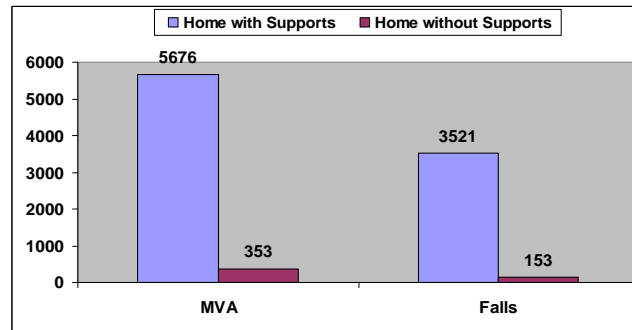
To identify the impact of private insurance coverage on discharge disposition after a traumatic brain injury (TBI) using injury in a motor vehicle accident (MVA) as a proxy for private insurance, controlling for age and severity of injury.

METHOD

Cross-sectional study using the Minimal Data Set (MDS) of the Ontario Trauma Registry (OTR).

Participants : Patients with TBI discharged acute care hospitals in Ontario between 1993-1994 and 2000-2001

RESULTS



DISCUSSION

- MVA patients are more likely to be discharged to home with support services than are falls patients; the probability of discharge to home without support was 1.6 times greater for falls patients than MVA patients, controlling for age and severity of injury.
- Availability of private automobile insurance makes a difference in obtaining supports from non-physician providers in the home.
- More research needs to be conducted to assess the longer-term impact of insurance type on service use and client outcomes.

Multiple logistic regression results :

Modelling the probability of discharge to Home with supports Level of Injury Severity

Independent variables *	p-value	OR	95% CI	Mild (LOS ≤ 2, n= 4,115)			Mod/Severe (LOS >2, n=3,754)		
				p-value	OR	95% CI	p-value	OR	95% CI
MVA/Fall	< 0.001	1.559	1.237 - 1.966	0.197	1.669	0.776 - 3.635	0.020	1.345	1.048 - 1.726
Male	0.919	0.989	0.796 - 1.228	0.057	0.503	0.247 - 1.022	0.623	1.059	0.842 - 1.333
Age	< 0.001	1.089	1.050 - 1.130	0.018	1.163	1.026 - 1.318	0.085	1.036	0.995 - 1.078
LOS	< 0.001	1.035	1.029 - 1.041	0.043	2.094	1.025 - 4.278	< 0.001	1.019	1.013 - 1.024
ISS	0.752	0.998	0.983 - 1.013	0.115	0.950	0.890 - 1.013	0.755	1.002	0.987 - 1.018

* Variables entered the Model : type of injury (MVA), sex (Male), age, LOS and ISS.

Acknowledgements

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