



The Sibley Report

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... the place to find valuable information to help make your job - and your life easier! If you have a topic idea or any other suggestions, please give our Editor - Angie Catenaro - a call. Sibley & Associates is a national disability management firm with a decade of experience, nearly 225 healthcare professionals and state-of-the-art technology. Our customers benefit from all the advantages a large company has to offer...while also benefiting from the "small business" customer service philosophy of our dedicated Insurance Services Division.

Parts of the Brain and Observed Problems after Injury

The human brain with over 10 billion cells and 10 billion nerves, as well as millions of blood vessels and only weighing 3 pounds in the average adult is fascinating! All of our cognitive skills and functions are associated with different areas of the brain. The brain functions as a whole by inter-relating its component parts.

In traumatic brain injury, the brain may be injured in a specific location, or the injury may be diffused to many different parts of the brain. It is this indefinite nature of brain injury that makes treatment unique for each individual. By knowing the location of the lesion, some assumptions can be made about the nature of the problems an individual may have. Diagnostic procedures, such as CT scans and MRIs, can also provide valuable information. A lot can also be learned about an injury by observing the day-to-day activities of the individual. All the activities we perform each day, whether physical or mental, are directed by different parts of our brain.

For example, if an injury is sustained to the occipital lobe, which is responsible for visual perception, the injury may result in blindness to part, or all of the visual field. "Holes" or "blind spots" in what can be seen, misperception of pictures, objects, and colours, as well as problems picking things out of space are all common.

For an overview of the parts of the brain and its functions and the problems observed when injury occurs at particular locations, please see the attached diagram and chart.

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