

# Prehospital Tx guidelines may improve outcomes in severe TBI

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(HealthDay)—Implementation of prehospital traumatic brain injury

(TBI) guidelines is associated with improvement in survival to hospital discharge for patients with severe TBI, according to a study published online May 8 in *JAMA Surgery*.

Daniel W. Spaite, M.D., from the University of Arizona in Phoenix, and colleagues conducted an intention-to-treat study using a before/after controlled design with patients with moderate to critically severe TBI. The correlation between implementing the nationally vetted, evidence-based prehospital treatment [guidelines](#) and outcomes was examined. A total of 21,852 patients met inclusion criteria for analysis.

The researchers found that the adjusted odds ratio (aOR) was 1.06 (95 percent confidence interval [CI], 0.93 to 1.21; P = 0.40) for survival to [hospital discharge](#) in the primary analysis. For survival to hospital admission, the aOR was 1.70 (95 percent CI, 1.38 to 2.09; P survival to discharge).

"We found a therapeutic sweet spot and showed that the guidelines had an enormous impact on people with severe TBI," Spaite said in a statement. "The guidelines did not make a difference in the moderate TBI group because those individuals would most likely have survived anyway and, unfortunately, the extent of injuries sustained in many critical [patients](#) was too extreme to overcome."

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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