

MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS **RESEARCH SUMMARY**

TOPIC: SAVING A COWBOY: TREATING TRAUMAS WITH WHOLE BLOOD
REPORT: MB #5120

BACKGROUND: Traumatic injuries are the foremost cause of disability and death in the United States. Accidents that cause traumatic injuries often lead to invasive surgeries. Most victims are diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder and struggle tremendously to return to their daily lifestyle. Most cases of trauma result in immediate hospital surgery and mental health issues from the time the accident occurred.

(Source: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5269564/>)

DIAGNOSING: Traumatic injuries involving the brain will usually require a neurological exam. To diagnose an injury, a doctor will typically use imaging tests such as CT and MRI scans. These will help detect bleeding and the category of the injury. Symptoms of traumatic injuries include headaches, nausea, behavioral changes, memory deficiency, and confusion. Injuries involving trauma will always require immediate medical attention even in less extreme cases. Symptoms differ from patient to patient and can worsen quickly if not treated when problems first arise. Around 75% of traumatic injuries that occur are mild, but still contain a high level of danger.

(Source: <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/traumatic-brain-injury-what-know-about-symptoms-diagnosis-and-treatment#:~:text=Diagnosis%20of%20TBI&text=Assessment%20usually%20includes%20a%20neurological,scans%2C%20cannot%20detect%20all%20TBIs.>)

NEW TECHNOLOGY: Surgery remains the gold standard treatment option for traumatic injuries. With better trained rescue teams, the number of people surviving accidents has skyrocketed in the last decade. New efforts are being taken that have improved the resuscitation processes in traumatic accidents. Professionals have found better ways to revive trauma patients through blood donations. When enough is available, it's been effective to treat patients with blood and proteins. Blood and plasma donations are needed to perform new and effective treatments to injured trauma patients. With better trained rescue teams, the number of people surviving accidents has skyrocketed in the last decade.

(Source: https://www.east.org/content/documents/2014_sagraves_presidential_address.pdf)

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If this story or any other Ivanhoe story has impacted your life or prompted you or someone you know to seek or change treatments, please let us know by contacting Marjorie Bekaert Thomas at mthomas@ivanhoe.com