RSNA Press Release

Recurrent Brain Trauma May Increase Alzheimer’s Risk

Released: May 9, 2023

OAK BROOK, Ill. — New research finds that the brains of otherwise healthy military personnel who are exposed to explosions show an abnormal brain accumulation of amyloid-beta protein—a protein that plays a role in the development of Alzheimer’s disease. The results of the study were published today in *Radiology*, a journal of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA).

Research over the last several decades suggests that there might be a relationship between repetitive or severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) and abnormal amyloid-beta accumulation. Certain forms of amyloid-beta can accumulate into tangles and plaques in the brain which can lead to cognitive decline and neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer’s disease.

Carlos Leiva-Salinas, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.

"Amyloid-beta is a molecule not normally found in the brains of young patients," said study...
Early Brain Amyloid Accumulation on PET in Military Instructors Exposed to Subconcussive Blast Injuries.

Collaborating with Dr. Leiva-Salinas were Amolak Singh, M.D., Eleanor Layfield, M.D., Lucia Flors, M.D.

Recurrence of brain trauma may increase Alzheimer's risk. RSNA.org

Copyright © 2023 Radiological Society of North America (RSNA)
Collaborating with Dr. Leiva-Salinas were Amolak Singh, M.D., Eleanor Layfield, M.D., Lucia Flors, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., and James T. Patrie, M.S.

In 2023, *Radiology* is celebrating its 100th anniversary with 12 *centennial issues*, highlighting Radiology's legacy of publishing exceptional and practical science to improve patient care.

*Radiology* is edited by Linda Moy, M.D., New York University, New York, N.Y., and owned and published by the Radiological Society of North America, Inc. ([https://pubs.rsna.org/journal/radiology](https://pubs.rsna.org/journal/radiology))

RSNA is an association of radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical physicists and related scientists promoting excellence in patient care and health care delivery through education, research, and technologic innovation. The Society is based in Oak Brook, Illinois. ([RSNA.org](https://www.rsna.org))

For patient-friendly information on PET, visit [RadiologyInfo.org](https://www.radiologyinfo.org).

---

**Recurrence of Traumatic Brain Injury May Increase Alzheimer’s Risk**

[RSNA.org](https://www.rsna.org)