

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND HOMELESSNESS

S. BELKNAP, M. BARRANTI
YORK UNIVERSITY, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA.
CONTACT: BELKNAP@MY.YORKU.CA

WHY THIS MATTERS

An increasing number of Canadians lack:

- stable housing
- the resources to acquire it

HOMELESSNESS IN CANADA



PURPOSE / OBJECTIVES

- Identify Concussion / TBI and related- psychopathology as pathways to homelessness
- Identify most effective point of intervention
- Formulate Federal policy suggestions to reduce outcomes of homelessness and increase resilience among survivors.

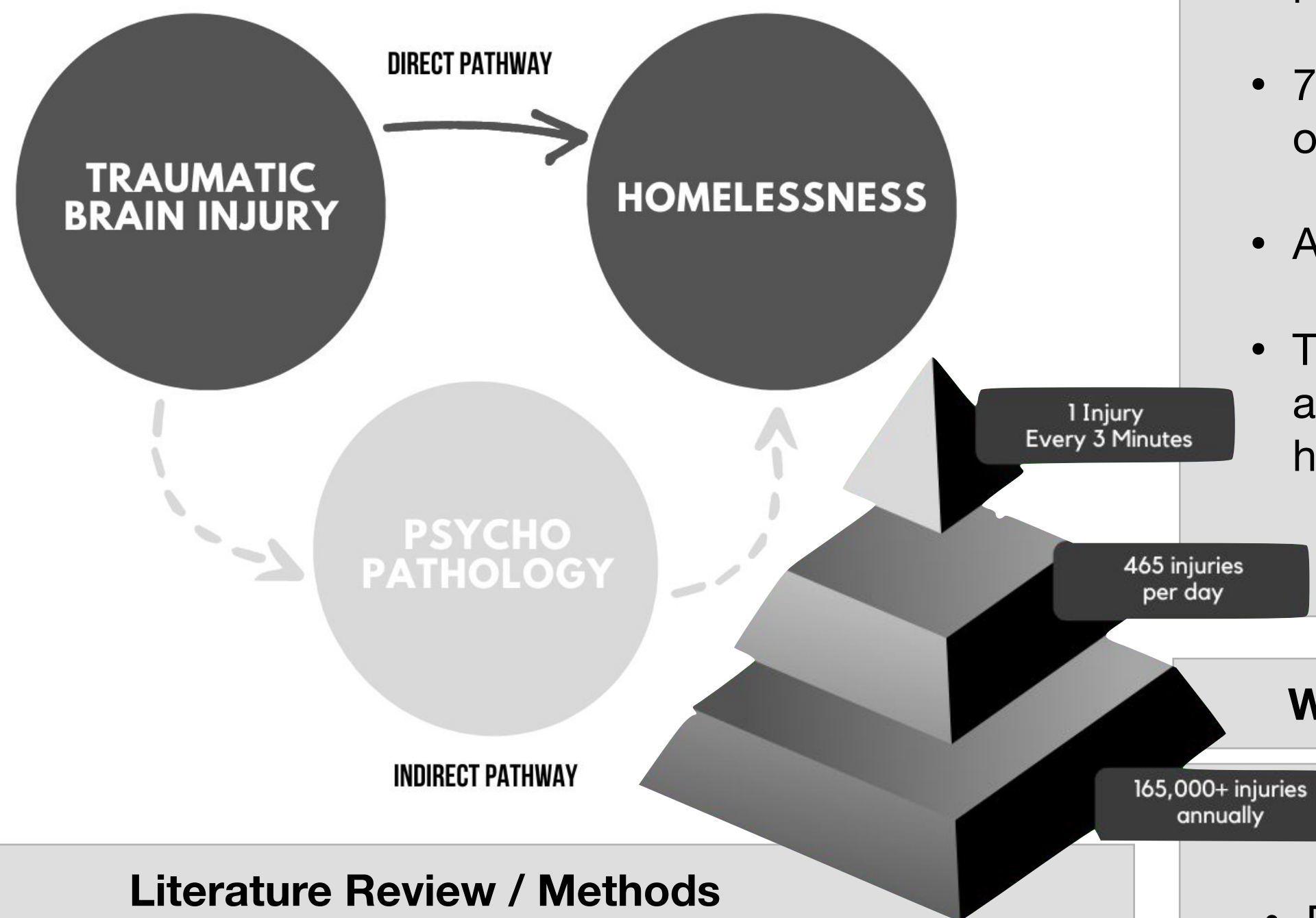
RESULTS

- Over 50% of Canada's unhoused population are TBI survivors
- 70% acquired the injury at 17.8 years old, prior to onset of homelessness
- Almost half of all youth injuries are TBI
- TBI-related personality change in adolescence is prevalent in 40% of hospitalized children.

WHAT POLICY MAKERS CAN DO

- Develop National guidelines of the Prescribed Housing model
- Youth-focused point of intervention
- Universal Mental Healthcare

87%
of Canadians
want Universal
Mental Healthcare



Literature Review / Methods

- Keywords (such as TBI, Homelessness, Policy, Youth)
- Critically analyzed over 59 theoretical and empirical articles
- Conducted informal interview with Federal Member of Parliament / Minister of Mental Health & Addiction Canada