

ABI

ResearchLab

# **Building Awareness and Service Provider Capacity for Intimate Partner Violence Brain Injury (IPV-BI) in Canada**

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The Abused 8 **Brain Injured Toolkit** 

1. Wilfrid Laurier University, 2. University of Toronto, 3. University of Manitoba, 4. Pan Am Concussion Clinic, 5. Supporting Survivors of Abuse and Brain Injury (SOAR), 6. University of British Columbia





include hits to the head, face, and neck, including strangulation (2)

1. World Health Organization. (2021). Understanding and addressing violence against women. Retrieved from Geneva, Switzerland: https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/violence/vaw\_series/en/

2. Sheridan DJ, & Nash KR. (2007) Acute injury patterns of intimate partner violence victims. Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 8(3), 281-289. doi:10.1177/1524838007303504 3. Haag H., Jones D., Joseph T., & Colantonio A. (2022) Battered and Brain Injured: Traumatic Brain Injury Among Women Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence—A Scoping Review. Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 23(4), 1270-1287. 10.1177/1524838019850623

### BACKGROUND

The intersection of intimate partner violence (IPV) and brain injury (BI) has been overlooked in research, practice, and policy. Physical violence during IPV can cause neurological deficits, loss of consciousness, and BIs. Individually, IPV and BI are associated with elevated rates of unemployment, poverty, and homelessness, as well as increased risk of mental health challenges and addictions. A lack of IPV-BI awareness, gaps in screening, and unique barriers to healthcare and social service provision leave survivors undiagnosed and/or unaware of their BI. Additional complications are embedded in professional siloing and a lack of interdisciplinary crosspollination, resulting in misdiagnosis and a dearth of IPV-BI sensitive services. There is limited research exploring IPV-BI support, and very few available practice resources, despite an identified need.

RESULT

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Using a collaborative pan-Canadian team of national IPV-BI experts, service providers, and survivors, we are developing a national strategy that will equip healthcare and social service providers with the knowledge and skills to safely provide comprehensive, multisectoral care. This strategy is being achieved through 3 broad objectives:

i) Create a national IPV-BI strategy built on universal access to centralized information, framework guiding develop and а and a sustainable comprehensive care, knowledge translation plan that nurtures connectivity and collaboration;

ii) Improve public and service provider knowledge of IPV-BI and equip multi-sector service providers with the tools necessary to recognize and respond safely to survivors; iii) Build evidence to support promising practices through the evaluation of novel, community-based interventions that support **IPV-BI** survivors.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**



WOMEN'S | HÉBERGEMENT SHELTERS | FEMMES CANADA | CANADA



Neurotrauma

Care Pathways













### **OBJECTIVES**

This multi-faceted, qualitative, community-based project spans three years and includes ongoing involvement and consultation from an expert advisory committee made up of service providers, decision-makers, researchers, community agencies, and survivors. Applying a knowledge-to-action framework, multiple projects are currently being undertaken to achieve our goals:

#### **The Canadian Centre** for IPV-BI

- 4 Pillars: Inspire, Engage, Discover, Connect
- Conduct global environmental scan to identify and gather all existing IPV-BI resources
- Knowledge Integration & Translation (KIT) Network
- Online library with shareable resources

#### www.ipvbicentre.ca www.centrevctcc.ca

## **Service Provider Resources**

- Systems of Care Framework
- Develop blueprints for optimal care pathways for urban, rural, and remote contexts
- Produce harmonized context-specific injury recognition and response protocols
- Create a Recognition and Response Toolkit made available through the Canadian Centre









### PROJECTS

#### **Public and Professional Knowledge Campaign**

- Updating and expanding the Concussion Awareness Training Tool (CATT) Online
- Create standardized general and post-injury educational resources
- Create and launch a PSA video

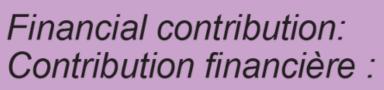
**CONCUSSION AWARENESS @**ATT **TRAINING TOOL** 

#### **Inuit Education Initiative**

- Working with local partners in Nunavut to develop community-created solutions
- Produce educational videos
- Create culturally relevant resources







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