

Myths & Facts about ABIs in the Workplace

There are many misconceptions about acquired brain injuries (ABIs) in workplace.

MYTH

ABIs aren't common.

Concussions/brain injuries are a leading cause of disability.

In Ontario...

FACT

- Over 500,000 people live with the effects of acquired brain injury.
- Approximately 174,000 concussions are diagnosed each year

MYTH

Accommodations are expensive.

According to a recent study by the Job Accommodation Network, 56% of employers said the accommodations needed by their employee was at **NO COST**.

FACT

MYTH

All people with ABIs have the same symptoms and recover the same.

People living with the effects of ABIs experience a range of symptoms, at varying severities with differing impacts on life. OBIA's Brain Injury Impact survey explored the experiences of over **30** symptoms, including:

FACT

- Sensitivity to noise
- Chronic pain
- Fatigue/low energy
- Difficulty concentrating
- Anxiety

MYTH

It's more cost effective to hire new employees than to retain existing ones.

FACT

Depending on an employee's level within an organization, it can cost anywhere between 30-400% of their annual salary to replace them!

MYTH

People living with the effects of ABIs don't have the skills or education I need.

FACT

People living with the effects of ABIs have a variety of educational and workplace experiences.

MYTH

Only athletes sustain concussions, they don't happen at work.

FACT

Research from OBIA's Brain Injury Impact Survey revealed that 19% of people sustained an acquired brain injury while at work or on the job.

ABIs can happen to anyone in any role and in any type of working environment.

Learn more by visiting

www.braininjuryandreturntowork.ca