“How can I protect myself and my family from a concussion or other serious brain injury?” It’s a question that’s on the minds of many Americans. A newly proposed surveillance system will allow CDC to start getting answers to this question and more.

2017 President’s Budget

Included within the 2017 President’s Budget is a request for $5,000,000 to establish and oversee a National Concussion Surveillance System. CDC creates surveillance systems, like this, to track and monitor health information in order to better understand a health problem and learn how best to safeguard the health of Americans and their families. CDC proposes the use of a new national household telephone survey to capture health information on concussion in this country.

National Concussion Surveillance System

Should the funding be received, the National Concussion Surveillance System will enable CDC to accurately determine how many Americans (children and adults) get a concussion each year and how the injury occurred. In addition, the results of a full-scale national system such as this would inform and equip leaders within communities, states, and across the country by:

✔ Providing the first national estimates of the number of sports-related concussion among youth that occur both in and outside of organized sports;

✔ Monitoring trends to understand whether the number of concussions is increasing or decreasing, and assessing the effectiveness of prevention efforts;

✔ Giving insight to health care providers and hospitals about where patients are seeking care for concussion and recovery needs; and

✔ Creating, for the first time ever, true national estimates of the number of people living with a disability caused by a brain injury.

Included within the 2017 President’s Budget is a request for $5,000,000 to establish and oversee a National Concussion Surveillance System. Should the funding be received, this system will allow CDC to get answers to questions on the minds of many Americans.

To learn more, visit: www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBrainInjury or email CDC’s Injury Center at: DUIPInquiries@cdc.gov
# Proposed National Concussion Surveillance System

## How it Works

Getting answers on concussion starts by **ASKING QUESTIONS**

### Prevention

- Have you had a head or neck injury in the past 12 months?
- How did your injury occur?

### Care

- Where did you seek care after you experienced this injury?
- What types of symptoms did you have?

### Recovery

- Do you still experience the effects from the injury?
- How long did it take to go back to work or school?

### WHY THIS MATTERS

- **Giving a voice to the silent epidemic**
  Almost 90% of concussions may be missed in current estimates.
- **Protecting Americans and their families**
  Learning more about who is at risk and how the injury occurred can help CDC and others find better ways to prevent these injuries.
- **Informing healthcare professionals**
  Discovering where patients seek care and common symptoms they have can help inform healthcare professionals about how to best treat their patients.
- **Supporting states and local organizations**
  Equipping states and organizations with information about how many Americans are living with brain injury and when and if they returned to work, school, or play, will support state and local efforts to design programs and services.

## CDC is Committed to Finding Answers

CDC is reaching out to leading researchers and organizations to provide input about the proposed surveillance system, and it will pilot test the household telephone survey next year. This will allow CDC to move forward quickly to make the National Concussion Surveillance System a reality if the funding is received.

CDC is committed to finding answers for Americans concerned about concussion and other serious brain injury. We are working to develop systems and programs that best address this important public health problem.

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