

Case Discussions

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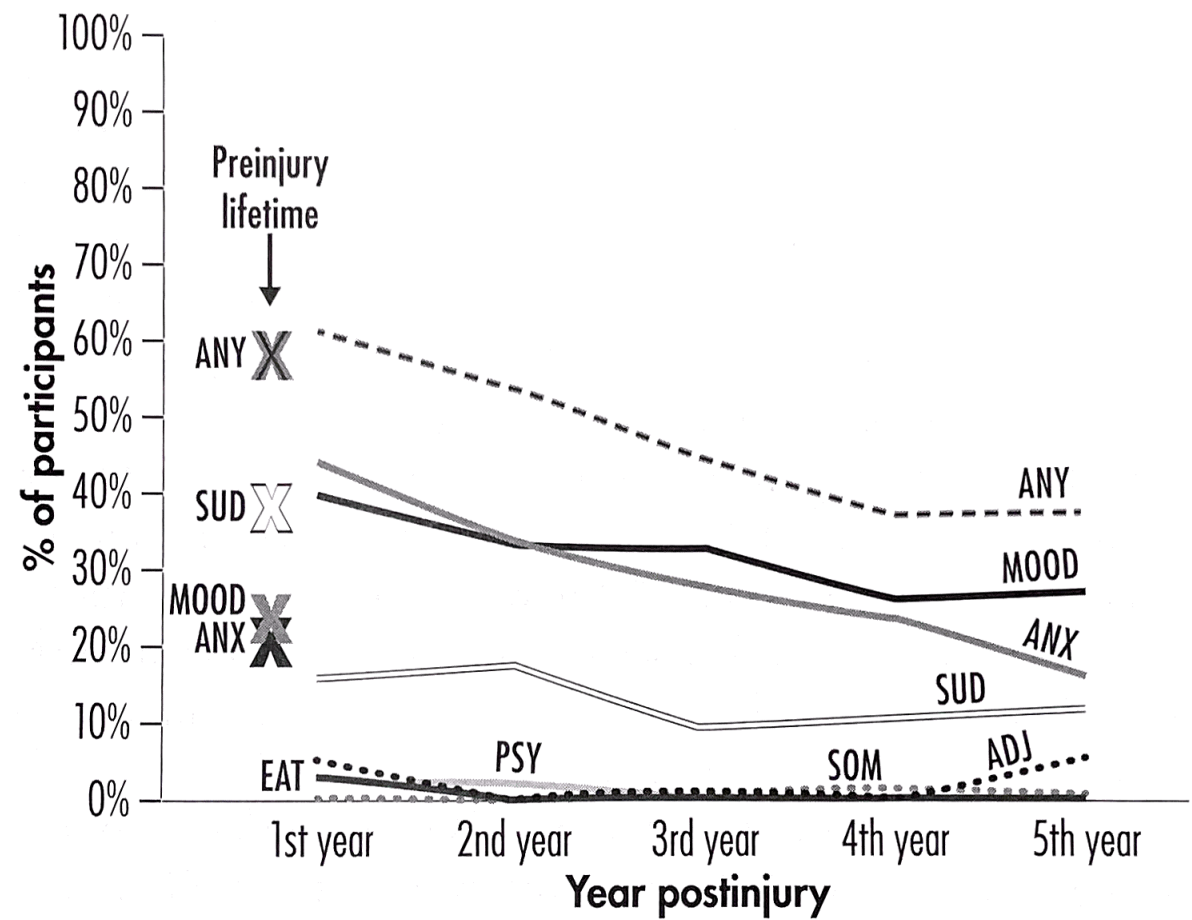


FIGURE 16–1. Disorder frequency—first 5 years postinjury.

Note. ADJ=adjustment disorders; ANX=anxiety disorders; ANY=any disorder; EAT=eating disorders; MOOD=mood disorders; PSY=psychotic disorders; SOM=somatoform disorders; SUD=substance use disorders.

Source. Data from Alway et al. 2016a.

Case One

- u 28 F Presents with increased mood swings since TBI 1 year ago
- u Injury hx: MVA 1 year ago hit right forehead. She needed stitches to close a wound on her forehead. No finding on CT. She reports being dazed after it happened for a few hours. EMT report confirms no LOC. She was discharged home after a brief observation.
- u Mental health hx: No prior dx or medications. Exhibited symptoms of impulsivity and irritability even before her TBI. However, the symptoms have worsened since the injury. Her impulsivity often leads to impulsive decision-making, risk-taking behaviors, and strained relationships with loved ones. She has had write-ups at work.
- u Substance use hx: Smoked marijuana daily from 18- date of injury. 1st tried Marijauna at age 13. 4 months after injury restarted using and now uses daily.

Case One

- u What is her diagnosis?
- u What other pieces of information should be gathered?
- u What do we think are reasonable next steps in treatment?

Case Two

- u 32 M Construction worker who now has new-onset psychotic symptoms
- u Injury hx: Patient fell three stories off of scaffolding. GCS 6 on admission. Multiple skull fractures, bilateral frontal contusions, and a large subdural hematoma. Underwent emergency craniotomy. Gradually improved over three weeks. Last documented GCS 12 and progressed to a Rancho Los Amigos VI. Suddenly, pts mental state changed he reported auditory hallucinations and paranoia about people plotting against him. He became agitated about being unable to safely cooperate with his therapy sessions.
- u Mental health hx: None
- u Substance use hx: None

Case Two

- u What other information would we want for this case?
- u What is this diagnosis?
- u What if the symptoms are present for another week? What about one year after this injury?
- u What about treatment?