

Catastrophic Injury Quick Reference Guide



What is a catastrophic injury? For PMSI, catastrophic injuries that we provide support services for include, but are not limited to, traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, severe burns, and limb amputations.

Traumatic brain injury (TBI)

An injury to the brain as a result of accident or injury, where an outside force impacts the head. It may be confined to a small area or affect a large area of the brain.

- Every 15 seconds, someone in the U.S. will sustain a TBI.
- The lifetime costs to treat someone with a TBI is estimated to be between \$600,000 to \$1.8 million.
- The leading causes of TBI are falls (28%), motor vehicle accidents (20%), being struck or hitting head against an object (19%), and assault (11%).

Limb amputations

Involves a large portion of an extremity are often traumatic in nature. These injuries can take 4–6 months to heal and an average of another 1–2 months for prosthetic design and fitting. Our Catastrophic Care Support Program provides services from hospitalization, discharge, prosthetics, therapy, and beyond.

- There are approximately 1.7 million people living with limb loss in the U.S.

Spinal cord injury (SCI)

An injury to the spinal cord that results in a loss of function, such as movement or sensation. In SCI, the spinal cord does not have to be severed to cause a loss of functioning.

- There are 247,000 Americans currently living with an SCI, with approximately 11,000 new injuries occurring yearly.
- Most frequent level of injury at the time of discharge is incomplete quadriplegia (34.3%), followed by complete paraplegia (25.1%), complete quadriplegia (22.1%), and incomplete paraplegia (17.5%).

Severe burns

Third-degree burns that involve all three layers of skin and may be even deeper into muscle, tendons, bone, and nerve fibers. This level of burn is prone to infection and scarring and usually will require skin or synthetic grafts to cover exposed tissue and encourage new skin to grow.

- More than 2 million burn injuries are reported each year in the U.S.; of these, roughly 20,000 will involve major burns covering at least 25% of the total body surface.

TOP 10

Items to Remember

Discharge Planning for
Catastrophic Injuries

**Call PMSI today to handle all of
your discharge planning needs.**

Catastrophic Referral Line:
888.867.7060

E-mail:
catastrophiccare@pmsionline.com
www.pmsionline.com

1

Supplies

- Bowel and bladder
- Wound dressings

2

Aids to Daily Living

- Blood pressure equipment
- Thermometer
- Adaptive feeding equipment
- Inspection mirror

3

Mobility

- Wheelchair (power, manual)
- Cushions
- Lift equipment
(manual, electric, track)
- Transfer board

4

Bed

- Hospital bed
- Mattress
(specialty, low air loss, regular)

5

Bath

- Shower chair and hand held shower
- Transfer bench
- Commode (3-in-1, elevated toilet seat)

6

Nursing and Home Care

- RN, LPN,
Home Health Aid (CNA)
- Infusion therapy

7

Therapies

- PT, OT, respiratory,
speech/language

8

Respiratory Equipment

- Ventilators, concentrators,
CPAP/BiPAP

9

Transportation

- Sedan, van, stretcher,
air ambulance

10

Modifications

- Home (ramps, wheelchair
clearance, kitchen, bathroom)
- Vehicle (lifts, controls)



Proven Solutions for Cost Containment