

How Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) Help in Concussion and TBI Care



CONCUSSION & CTE
FOUNDATION

By: Kelli A. Uitenham, CScD, CCC-SLP, CBIS

Cognitive Rehabilitation

- SLPs evaluate and treat difficulties in attention, memory, organization, and executive functioning. For athletes who can't recall plays, veterans who forget critical tasks, or survivors of domestic abuse struggling with daily routines, targeted therapy can rebuild independence.

Communication Support

- Brain injuries often make it harder to process language or find words. These communication breakdowns can leave individuals isolated or misunderstood. SLPs provide both restorative therapies and compensatory strategies to ensure people can connect with others and advocate for themselves.

Swallowing Disorders (Dysphagia)

- For some, brain injury affects swallowing safety. SLPs step in to prevent aspiration, malnutrition, and further health decline.

Improving Mental Health and Quality of Life

- Communication and cognition touch every part of life. When these skills are disrupted, anxiety, depression, and hopelessness often follow. By restoring function and confidence, SLPs play a direct role in supporting mental health and improving quality of life.

Questions?

Go to ConcussionAndCTE.org or scan QR code

