

Introduction

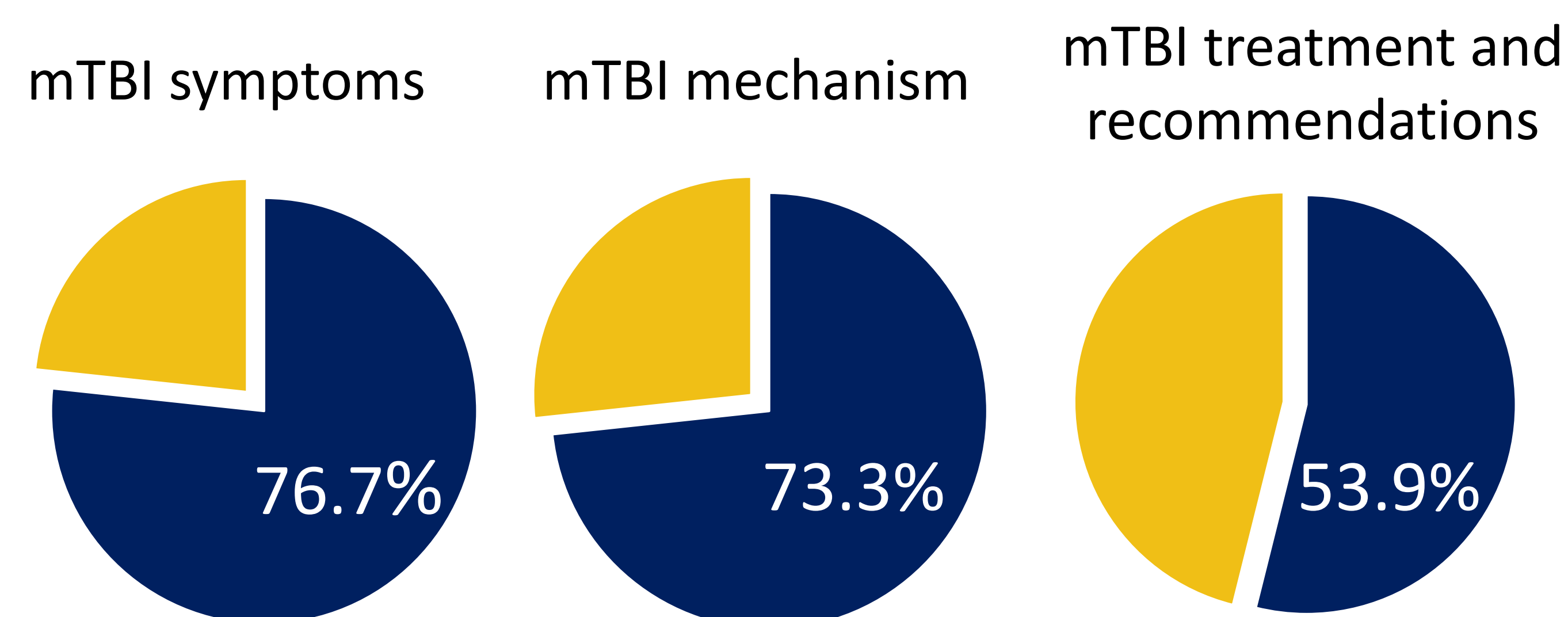
- Over 3 million traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) occur annually¹ mostly mild TBIs (mTBI)
 - Previous studies estimate that only 60% of the general public have an accurate understanding of mTBI, including expected symptoms^{2,3}
- Objectives of the current project:
- To evaluate public knowledge of mTBI
 - To assess and compare mTBI knowledge within certain populations (e.g., psychology students, college athletes, general public)

Methods

- 619 total participants (333 college students, 90 psychology trainees and clinicians, and 196 respondents from the general public)
- Participants were recruited via
 1. University research recruitment system
 2. Listservs and social media ads
 3. Amazon mTurk
- BAT-LQ utilized to assess lifetime TBI history⁴
- Survey questions assessed knowledge of mTBI mechanism, symptoms, and recovery
- Gender:
 - Male: 218
 - Female: 390
 - Non-binary: 1, Questioning: 1
 - Transgender: 1
- Mean age = 25.49 years old (Range 17-74)

Results

- 445 participants reported no formal TBI diagnosis
 - Based on the BAT-LQ, 240 individuals (~54%) who reported no formal TBI diagnoses likely sustained a TBI
- Overall TBI knowledge accuracy was 69%



- Knowledge accuracy based on sample:
 - General public 64%
 - College students 70%
 - Psychology Trainees/Clinicians 77%
- Factors **positively** related to mTBI knowledge accuracy
 - Female gender identity
 - Suspected TBI
 - TBI knowledge confidence
- Factors **negatively** related to mTBI knowledge accuracy
 - Age
 - Identity as an athlete
 - Prior mTBI training (formal training/programming)

Results c

- Participants also reported sources of information:
 - Health Professionals
 - Other Education
 - Personal Experiences (24.18%)
 - Television/movie
 - Professional training

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- Overall accuracy fell at significantly between groups
- Many individuals were not scientifically supported
- Many individuals reported health care professional sources, yet still have mTBI
 - Findings suggest a need for health education on mTBI
 - It is important to have the most accurate

¹CDC, 2019, symptoms ²Gouvier et al. 1988 ³Merz et al. 2017 ⁴Fortier et al. 2014

"The voluntary, fully informed consent of the subjects used in this research was obtained as required by 32 CFR 219 and DODI 3216.02_AFI 40-402."

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