

Phases of mTBI recovery

Improvement with mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) / concussion is expected. Listen to your body as you progress to getting back to everyday activities.

mTBI Recovery Phases



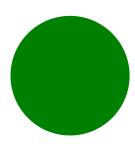
Symptoms Not Controlled Phase

- ✓ Symptoms are not controlled
- ✓ The client is not able to participate as usual
- Focus on understanding symptoms and managing symptoms
- Many life tasks will need to be modified: Be mindful with sports, exercise, cognitive demands, and screen time.



Symptoms Managed Phase

- ✓ The client has a good understanding of symptoms and is able to manage them to avoid a setback.
- ✓ Focus on building tolerance in controlled environments.
- Do activities that are fun and enjoyable avoid "complete rest."
- ✓ As symptoms improve, gradually return to activity. There is no "rule" - rather, return to activity is guided by symptoms.
- Practice "pacing": increasing activity while staying below symptom threshold.



Getting Back To Life Phase

- ✓ The client continues to return to full activities
- Use accommodations and strategies as needed.
- Actively track ability and symptoms, as well as the success of strategies.

Reference: Hardin, K. (2015). Coming out of the dark. ASHA Leader, 20(12), https://doi.org/10.1044/leader.FTR1.20122015.38