

Army task force addresses brain trauma

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- A U.S. Army task force reported diagnostic and treatment issues for soldiers suffering mild traumatic brain injury as a result of exposure to bomb blasts. The task force reported major gaps, due to "a lack of coordination and policy-driven approaches," existed in the treatment of traumatic brain injury from exposure to bomb blasts USA Today said Friday. Victims typically show no signs of injury but exposure to bomb blasts can cause abnormal brain functions pertaining to short-term memory, cognitive ability, sleep disorders, nausea, dizziness and headaches. Reports show as many as 20 percent of the soldiers returning from Afghanistan and Iraq suffer these brain injuries, USA Today said. The chairman of the task force, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Donald Bradshaw, said improved and increased screening methods provide a better understanding of injuries. The Army concluded developing standard treatment guidelines in October and said many of the soldiers suffering mild brain injury recover completely.

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