


  
**Karl Landsteiner Institute**  
 for Neurorehabilitation  
 and Space Neurology

**Die große Herausforderung der  
 Neurotraumatologie – Verletzungen des  
 zentralen und peripheren Nervensystems**  
*Einleitung*  
 F. Gerstenbrand  
 Karl Landsteiner-Institute for Neurorehabilitation and Space Neurology, Vienna, Austria

11. Jahrestagung der Österreichischen  
 Gesellschaft für Neurologie  
 26. März 2014  
 Salzburg

**Die Hirnverletzung**  
**Biomechanik, Klassifikation**  
 Einleitende Darstellung

**Traumatic brain injury (TBI)**

- is a frequent cause of morbidity and mortality in the European countries
- incidence between 229 and 1.967 for 100.000 inhabitants
- highest incidence in men between 15 and 24 years
- most frequent cause of death for humans under 45 years (most frequent cause of death between age of 20 – 35 years worldwide in the male population)

**Different types of TBI**

- Closed Brain Trauma  
sometimes combined with fracture of skull
- Open Brain Trauma  
by a penetrating object (bullet, etc.)

**Patterns of Brain Trauma**  
**Acceleration - Deceleration**

- Outer brain injury
- Inner brain injury
- Rotational brain injury

**Head Trauma**  
 Impact Scheme modified after Spatz

Brain tissue damage depends on

- Direction, form of impact
- Location of impact
- Intensity of the force

Documentation after Spatz,  
Innsbruck modified

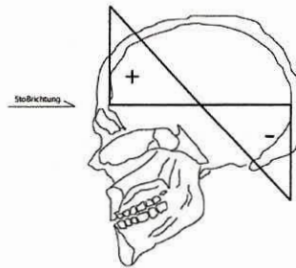
Multiple impacts possible

The diagram illustrates two views of a human head. The left view is a profile view with impact points labeled: II (front), IIa (forehead), IIb (temple), V (top), Va (frontal top), Vb (occipital top), VI (back), I (side), Ia (side), and Ib (side). The right view is a top-down view with impact points labeled: II (top), III (front), IIIa (front), IIIb (front), IV (side), IVa (side), IVb (side), and V (back).

## Different types of head impact

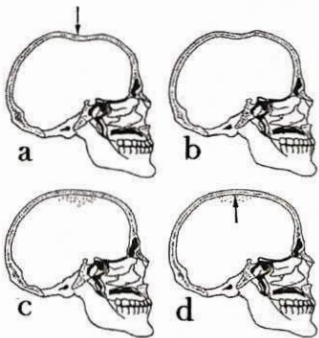
- Translational impact, local
  - Local, brain surface
  - Local, midbrain
- Cavitation trauma
  - Local
  - Periventricular
- Rotational trauma (Pudenz-Shelden)

## Biomechanics of Head Impact, Sellier, Unterharnscheidt, 1963



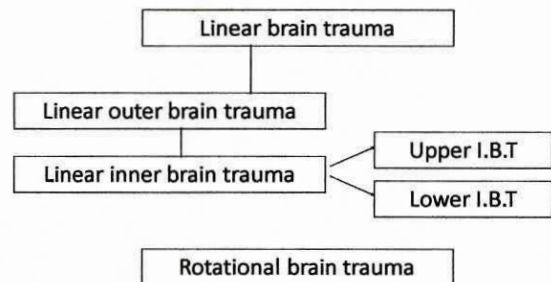
- Positive pressure at the impact pole
- Negative pressure at the counter pole

## Biomechanics, cavitation trauma after A.G. Gross, 1958



- Lesions on the impact region (b): Direct damage due to the impressed skull bone, positive pressure
- Due to snapping back of the elastic skull bone, negative pressure emerges gas bubbles (d)

## Different Types of Brain Trauma Classification by biomechanical analysis

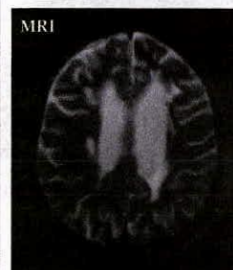
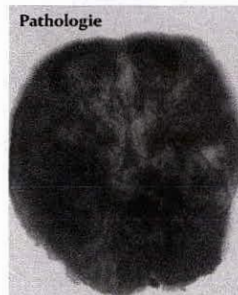


## Linear Outer Brain Trauma (Type I, II, III, IV)

- Coup lesions, contre-coup lesions
  - Cortical, sub-cortical, meningeal damage, crater-shaped
    - Type I severe lesions fronto-temporal  
Contre-coup negative pressure
    - Type II minor lesions frontal  
force absorption by facial skeleton
    - Type III, IV mostly combined with rotational brain trauma

## Linear outer Brain Trauma

- Lesions on the surface of the brain, cortical-subcortical meninges (funnel-shaped)

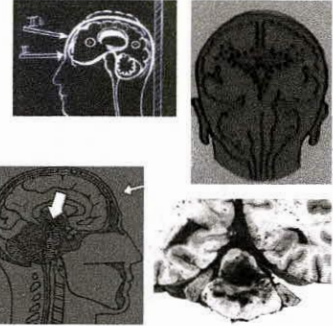


## Linear Inner Brain Trauma

- Inner upper brain trauma (Grcevic)
  - Lesions periventricular (butterfly type): corpus callosum, septum pellucidum, fornix, thalamus, hypothalamus, cingulum
- Inner lower brain trauma (Lindenberg)
  - midbrain-pons lesions (substantia nigra, perirubral zone, crura cerebri, tegmentum, periaqueductal gray, upper pons),
  - surrounding brain regions (perihippocampus, uncus amygdalae, cerebellum)

## Linear Inner Brain Trauma

- a) Linear inner upper brain trauma (Grcevic) butterfly lesions Type IIb, Ia (II) cavitation trauma
- b) Linear inner lower brain trauma (Lindenberg) lesions brain stem, surrounding brain region Type V, Va translational trauma

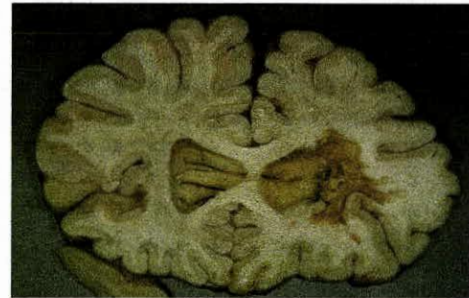


## Linear Inner Upper Brain Trauma N. Grcevic



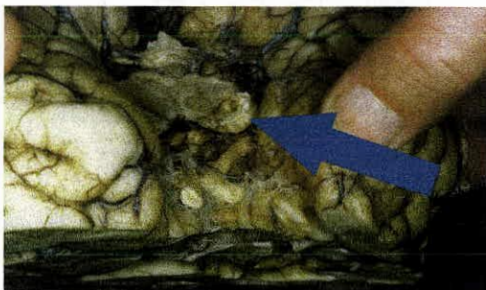
Impact type IIb, Ia, (II)  
Main lesions, periventricular  
Partly lesions hippocampal area, frontal

## Linear Inner Upper Brain Trauma Type Ib



Frontal white matter, periventricular damage

## Linear Inner Lower Brain Trauma (Type Va) Combination with Rotational Trauma (IVa) Uncal Tentorial Herniation



Direct lesion in the upper midbrain, indirekt lesion after uncal herniation (arrow)

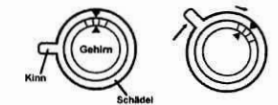
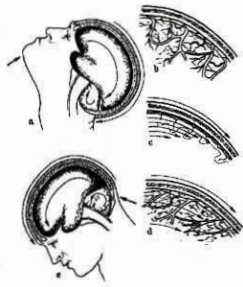
## Rotational Trauma (Pudenz-Shelden)

Type Ia, Ib, IIa, IIb, IIIa, IIIb, IVa, IVb, VI

- Intracerebral laceration (basal ganglia, capsula interna)
- Intracerebral hematoma (thalamus, hypothalamus)
- Extracerebral hematoma (subdural, epidural)

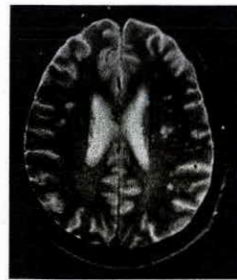


## Rotational trauma – Scheme Pudenz-Shelden

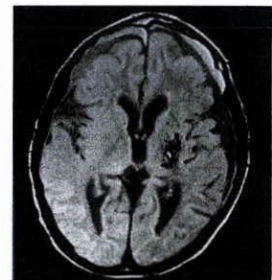


- Brain laceration (capsula int., basal ganglia)
- Intracerebral hemorrhage (thalamus, hypothalamus)
- Extracerebral hematoma (subdural, epidural)

## Rotational Brain Trauma Type IIb



White matter lesions, small  
hematoma



Lesions:  
basalganglia, capsula interna

## Different forms of traumatic lesions

- Primary lesions (irreversible)
- Secondary lesions (therapeutic battle field)  
Penumbra, postedemic, posthypoxic, posthypoxemic (diffuse/local)
- Tertiary lesions (malnutrition, malabsorption, avitaminosis, bed rest syndrome, etc.)  
Encephalopathy, myelopathy, pontine myelinolysis, polyneuropathy
- Quaternary lesions  
hydrocephalus, meningococcal meningitis, brain abscess
- Complications  
joint contraction, periarticular ossification, decubitus, pressure lesion of peripheral nerves



## Classification of Head Trauma

- Head Injury (HI)
- Brain Injury (TBI)
  - Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI)
  - Post Concussion Syndrome (PCS)
  - Moderate Traumatic Brain Injury
  - Severe Traumatic Brain Injury
  - Severest Traumatic Brain Injury
- Combined Traumatic Brain Injury with cervical injury  
(Whip Lash Injury)

## Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Symptoms (P. Vos et al)

- Loss of consciousness (LOC), 5-15 min., max. 20 min.
- Post Traumatic Amnesia (PTA), shorter than 20 min.
- Lack of neurological deficits
- Admission Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) 13-15
- Head Trauma impact scheme, mostly type I, II

## Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Diagnostic program

- Hospital admission obligatory, min. stay 24 hrs., Traumatic Brain Centre desirable
- Neurological examination obligatory
- Accurate history, including accident witnesses, head trauma scheme
- Additional examinations, risk cases, CT, EEG  
alcohol, intoxication, children, age more than 65
- Consequent controls by experienced medical personal during hospital stay
- Neurological controls, repeated during hospital stay
- Documentation, check list

### Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment

- Admission to hospital care obligatory, min. stay 24 hrs.
- Consequent bed rest
- Medicaments for pain, if necessary
- After discharge, period of rest for 3 days necessary

### Post Concussion Syndrome Symptoms

- Loss of Consciousness (LOC) 10 – till 30 min.
- Post Traumatic Amnesia (PTA) shorter then 1 hr., mostly retrograde, anterograde possible
- Physical symptoms: nausea, vomiting, dizziness, head aches
- Neurological deficits: particular frontal, temporal
- Alteration in mental state: dazed, confusion, disorientation
- Emotional disturbances: disinhibition, lability
- Cognitive deficits: impaired cognition, slowed cognitive processing, impaired concentration
- Admission Glasgow Coma Scale 13-14
- Head Trauma impact scheme, mostly type I, II

### Post Concussion Syndrome Diagnostic program

- Hospital admission obligatory, traumatic Brain Center desirable, min. stay 48 hrs.
- Neurological examination obligatory
- Accurate history including witnesses
- Additional examinations: CT obligatory, EEG facultative
- Consequent controls by experienced medical personal during hospital stay
- Regular neurological controls, 3 hours period during hospital stay
- Documentation, check list

### Post Concussion Syndrome Treatment

- Admission to hospital care obligatory, min. stay 48 hrs.
- Consequent bed rest
- Medicaments for pain, headaches
- Discharge to home with instructions
- After discharge, period of rest for 10 days necessary
- Neurological control after 3 weeks

### Basic Differences: MTBI, PCS

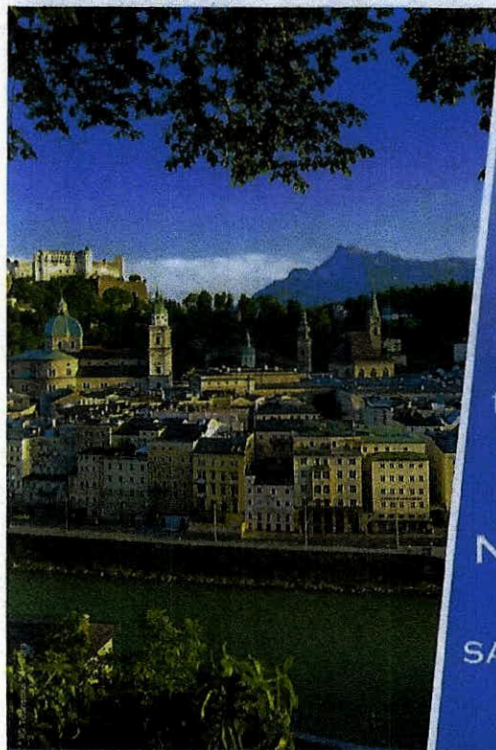
	MTBI	PCS
neurological deficits	none	possible (frontal, cerebellar)
EEG	normal	abnormal, possible
cCT	no substantial lesions	brain lesions, possible
cMRI	no substantial damage	local brain damage, detectable
legal consequences	none	insurance covered

### Conclusion

Mild Traumatic Brain Injury, "Comotio Cerebri" is a transient dysfunction of the brain, no damage of brain tissue. Functional disturbances, without "morphological alterations" (SPATZ). Legally not declared as physical injury.

Brain Concussion Syndrome, symptoms of extended Mild Traumatic Brain Injury, additional physical disturbances (nausea, vomiting, dizziness) and local brain lesions, EEG mostly abnormal, lesions in MRI detectable, in CT particularly. Legally declared as physical injury, forensic and legal consequences, covered by insurance.





11. JAHRESTAGUNG DER  
ÖSTERREICHISCHEN  
GESELLSCHAFT FÜR  
**NEUROLOGIE**

**SALZBURG CONGRESS**  
26.- 29. MÄRZ 2014

**KONGRESS  
PROGRAMM**

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12:00-13:30 **AG III AG GESCHICHTE DER NEUROLOGIE** HOHENSALZBURG

Vorsitz: Franz Gerstenbrand, Wien



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Verletzungen des zentralen und peripheren Nervensystems

Einleitung:  
Franz Gerstenbrand, Wien

Verletzungen des zentralen und peripheren Nervensystems  
im 1. Weltkrieg  
Helmut Gröger, Wien

Diskussion

13:00-14:30 **AG IV AG NEUROIMMUNOLOGIE /** TRAKL  
**ARGE LIQUORDIAGNOSTIK / ARGE NMO**

„Multiple Sklerose & Neuromyelitis optica: Monitoring des  
Krankheitsverlaufs und der Therapie“

Vorsitz: Christiane Schmied, Wien; Thomas Berger, Innsbruck

Monitoring mittels MRT - wissenschaftliche Erkenntnisse versus  
Praxisrelevanz  
Christian Enzinger, Graz

Neuromyelitis optica: Monitoring des Krankheitsverlaufs und  
der Therapie  
Wolfgang Kristoferitsch, Wien

Monitoring von Multiple Sklerose Therapien  
Michael Khalil, Graz

Potenziell zukünftige Laborbiomarker bei Multipler Sklerose  
Harald Hegen, Innsbruck

Diskussion

13:30-15:00 **AG IV AG NEUROMUSKULÄRE ERKRANKUNGEN** TRAPP

Vorsitz: Wolfgang Grisold, Wien; Wolfgang Löscher, Innsbruck

Chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy?  
Andreas Argyriou, Patras, Greece

Diskussion

AUFTRAG