



Acquired Brain Injury

Questions to Consider When Selecting a Rehabilitation Treatment Program

Choosing a rehabilitation facility is one of the most important decisions you will have to make in the near future. It is very important to be confident about the quality of care you or a loved one will receive when entering a rehabilitation program.

In general, it is best to compare at least three rehabilitation programs to make an informed decision on the best facility for your loved one. Admissions personnel will be able to answer these questions for you.

1. How many patients are admitted to the acquired brain injury rehabilitation program each year?

Shepherd Center: _____ Facility B: _____ Facility C: _____

2. How many patients has the facility treated with injuries similar to yours?

Shepherd Center: _____ Facility B: _____ Facility C: _____

3. What is the average age of patients in the acquired brain injury unit?

Shepherd Center: _____ Facility B: _____ Facility C: _____

4. Are there patients in the program of the same age and sex as the patient considering admission?

Same age?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

Same sex?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

5. Does the hospital specialize in acquired brain injury rehabilitation services or is it just one of the many medical services offered?

Shepherd Center: _____ Facility B: _____ Facility C: _____

6. Is the facility equipped to manage life-threatening emergencies on-site?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

7. Are patients able to begin the rehabilitation process on the acquired brain injury unit even if they have significant medical problems?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

8. What is the nurse to patient ratio in your facility?

Shepherd Center: _____ Facility B: _____ Facility C: _____

9. Does the facility offer services for every stage of recovery, including:

INTENSIVE CARE

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

INPATIENT REHABILITATION

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

POST-ACUTE REHABILITATION

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

OUTPATIENT SERVICES

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

TRANSITION SUPPORT PROGRAM

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

10. Does your facility offer inpatient treatment for those in a coma, unresponsive wakefulness or minimally conscious state?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

11. How often and for how long each day do patients get treatment by specialists such as physical, occupational and speech therapists?

Shepherd Center: _____ Facility B: _____ Facility C: _____

12. Are activities planned for patients on weekends and evenings?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

13. Does your facility have full-time clinical educators for staff development and training to ensure that all clinicians are practicing the latest therapeutic interventions?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

Counseling services

1. What types of coping and support services are available?

PEER SUPPORT

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP THERAPY

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

PSYCHOTHERAPY

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

FAMILY COUNSELING

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

VOCATIONAL COUNSELING

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

SUBSTANCE MISUSE COUNSELING

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

Family members

1. Are family members encouraged to participate in rehabilitation?

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

2. To what extent?

Shepherd Center: _____

Facility B: _____

Facility C: _____

3. Does your facility have a family education program to prepare me for future caregiving responsibilities?

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

4. What type of support do you offer after we return home?

Shepherd Center: _____

Facility B: _____

Facility C: _____

5. Are there free or low-cost living arrangements for family members participating in training?

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

Outcomes

1. What percent of patients return to home or community rather than long-term care facilities?

Shepherd Center: _____

Facility B: _____

Facility C: _____

2. How does that compare to other treatment centers?

Shepherd Center: _____

Facility B: _____

Facility C: _____

3. Rehabilitation hospitals measure patient results in terms of "functional improvement." What is the facility's average functional improvement measure (FIM) score and FIM change for patients with acquired brain injuries?

Shepherd Center: _____

Facility B: _____

Facility C: _____

4. What is the facility's average length of stay for patients with injuries similar to yours?

Shepherd Center: _____

Facility B: _____

Facility C: _____

On-Site Review

1. Were staff members helpful and friendly when information was requested?

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

2. Were you offered an opportunity to tour the facility?

Shepherd Center: yes no

Facility B: yes no

Facility C: yes no

3. What were your impressions of the overall atmosphere?

Shepherd Center: _____

Facility B: _____

Facility C: _____

4. Did you have the opportunity to speak with people currently participating in the program?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

5. Were they satisfied with their rehabilitation programs?

Shepherd Center: yes no Facility B: yes no Facility C: yes no

LEARN MORE ABOUT SHEPHERD CENTER

If you would like to learn more about Shepherd Center's acquired brain injury program, please contact our Admissions Department at 800-743-7437 or email admissions@shepherd.org. Visit us online at shepherd.org.