

Method

Article Selection Procedure

The initial step involved a systematic computer search of the psychological and medical literature to identify articles relating to predictors and indicators of return to work for individuals with traumatic brain injury. The examination covered the years 2000 to 2012 inclusively. A search of the databases Rehabilitation Reference Center, PsychINFO, and Google Scholar was completed to identify studies for this review. The following descriptive terms and key words were combined to conduct the searches to maximize the number of possible studies: using the connector *and*, the term *traumatic brain injury* and *return to work* were combined individually with each of the following terms: *ethnicity*, *race*, *minority status*, *age*, *gender*, *pre-occupational employment status*, and *rural vs. urban environment*. In addition, the terms *severity of injury* and *involvement in vocational rehabilitation* were combined with the terms *traumatic brain injury* and *return to work*. Only English articles were consulted for this review. The bibliographies of the articles identified in the search provided further sources of references. The use of this selection process yielded 28 studies used in this review.

Inclusion Criteria

After reviewing the titles and abstracts of the articles that were produced using the search terms, the author included studies that met the following criteria:

1. The study included working aged (16 years plus) individuals with traumatic brain injury.
2. The study had to have at least one quantitative measure of a predictor or indicator of return to work. Studies that were purely descriptive were not included in the analysis.

3. The study was published in peer-reviewed journals. Studies published in book chapters and technical reports were not included. International studies were included in the analysis.

4. The studies were published between the years of 2000 and 2012.