

Reduce the chance of you or your child being seriously injured while sharing a season of fun ice skating, skiing, snowboarding, and sledding.



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Concussions and more severe traumatic brain injury are common problems worldwide. Some of these accidents can lead to permanent impairments of motor function, speech, and cognition and, occasionally, can even be fatal. Although many severe head injuries are caused by a high impact force, some individuals will develop potentially life threatening traumatic brain injuries with relatively minor degrees of impact. The best protection against head injuries is to use an approved helmet specifically designed for the activity one is engaging in. A helmet is often composed of a rigid shell and protective inner layers of foam and other substances which cushion the brain from a jarring force.

In my practice, there are many traumatic brain injuries that arise even during activities where individuals choose not to wear a helmet or when the use of a helmet is not strictly mandated. Many individuals engage in recreational skiing, skating, snowboarding, sledding, and even walking outside in icy conditions in the winter. Inevitably, there are falls and accidents which occur, which for the most part are innocuous. Unfortunately, some individuals will sustain enough trauma to the brain to develop a concussion, diffuse axonal injury (nerve damage), and bleeding around or within the brain. In the absence of immediate medical attention, a small subset of people may even develop progressive brain swelling and can die.

The Humpty Hat represents a novel innovation designed to reduce the impact of minor blunt trauma or impact to the skull and brain. It is important to note that this product is not a helmet and should never be used in place of a tested and certified helmet designed for the activity that one is engaged in. Nevertheless, for some recreational activities where ordinarily would not use a helmet but where additional protection is desired, the Humpty Hat is ideal. Although it ostensibly looks like a simple winter cap, a cross linked polymeric foam insert within it cushions the skull and brain. The design of the padding is such that it conforms to the various lobes of the brain, a feature known as "anatomic mapping". The frontal, temporal, parietal, and occipital lobes of the brain and the overlying skull in these areas is afforded protection by the specific placement of these foam pads.

The bottom line is that the Humpty Hat is far superior to an ordinary winter cap in terms of mitigating or reducing minor impact to the skull or brain. If you or your family are thinking about wearing winter caps for any reason, you should strongly consider the warmer and safer alternative, the Humpty Hat.

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