Supplemental material for Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Return to Work after Mild Traumatic Brain Injury

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# Modified Newcastle Ottawa quality assessment scale

## Selection

1. Representativeness of the exposed cohort
   1. Truly representative of the average mild TBI
   2. Somewhat representative of the average mild TBI
   3. Selected group of users e.g. Nurses, volunteers
   4. No description of the derivation of the cohort
2. Ascertainment of exposure
   1. Secure record (e.g. Surgical records)
   2. Structured interview
   3. Written self-report
   4. No description
3. Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study (Ascertainment of pre-injury employment status)
   1. All patients employed
   2. Patients were employed, including student/homemaker/other activity
   3. Pre-injury employment status unclear
   4. Pre-injury employment status not described

## Outcome

1. Assessment of outcome
   1. Independent blind assessment
   2. Record linkage
   3. Self-report
   4. No description
2. Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur
   1. Yes (at least one month)
   2. No
3. Adequacy of follow up of cohorts
   1. Complete follow up - all subjects accounted for
   2. Subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias - lost <20% follow up, or description provided of those lost)
   3. Subjects lost to follow up likely to introduce bias - >20 loss to follow up
   4. No statement

# Results of Modified Newcastle Ottawa quality assessment

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Study | Representativeness of the exposed cohort | Ascertainment of exposure | Ascertainment of pre-injury employment status | Assessment of outcome | Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur? | Adequacy of follow up of cohorts |
| Dikmen 1994 [34] | 3  Drawn from three studies that included moderates and severe, and inclusion criteria not clear - published across four separate articles. | 1 | 1  All patients were 'workers' - defined as major pre-injury activity to be work not school/homemaking/retirement. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 4  Proportion or patients followed up not described |
| Ruffolo 1999 [14] | 3  All patients had motor vehicle collisions so excludes other mechanisms of injury | 1 | 2  Patients were working before the accident in paid or unpaid employment (eg, as a student, homemaker, or volunteer worker). | 3  Self-report | 1 | 3  79% followed up |
| Haboubi 2001 [38] | 2  Self-selected as invited to participate by post - 1255 invited, 639 responded | 1 | 3  Unclear exactly how the authors calculated RTW, but text implies that only patients that were employed pre-injury were followed up for RTW. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 3  38% followed up |
| McCullagh 2001 [35] | 3  Recruited from TBI clinic so excludes those not followed up in clinic | 1 | 3  90% of patients were employed prior to injury and RTW was defined as return to previous work or studies. Patients that were retired prior to injury, and those who remained off work for reasons other than their TBI, such as persisting orthopaedic injuries, were excluded. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 1  100% followed up |
| Reynolds 2003 [32] | 2  Recruited as in-patient so excludes those discharged from ED | 1 | 2  Patients reported their pre-injury occupational status as working, student, homemaking, or other regular daily activities | 3  Self-report | 1 | 2  88% followed up |
| Hughes 2004 [41] | 1  Recruited from ED | 1 | 3  Describes RTW rates and excludes patients that were ‘not applicable’, therefore implying that patients unemployed prior to injury were excluded. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 3  49% followed up |
| Stulemeijer 2008 [39] | 1  Recruited from ED | 1 | 4  Patients pre-injury occupational status not described | 3  Self-report | 1 | 3  72% followed up |
| Iverson 2012 [33] | 2  Sample is from a larger study but no reference to methodology for recruiting to it | 1 | 3  A 'known duration of time off work' is reported, therefore implying but not explicit that all patients were working prior to injury. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 1  100% followed up |
| Ryb 2014 [36] | 3  Recruited as in-patient so excludes those discharged from ED, and excluded complicated MTBI | 1 | 3  90% of patients were employed prior to injury. RTW rates not explicitly calculated on this majority sub-group. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 3  61% followed up |
| Vikane 2014 [37] | 2  Recruited as in-patient so excludes those discharged from ED | 1 | 3  Included patients that could have been employed prior to injury, but didn't report which were employed. Excluded those on sick leave for a year prior to injury. | 2  RTW outcome derived from national database | 1 | 1 |
| Waljas 2014 [17] | 1  Recruited from ED | 1 | 2  All patients were working or students at the time of injury | 3  Self-report | 1 | 2  97% followed up |
| Losoi 2016 [6] | 1  Recruited from ED | 1 | 2  Included patients that were employed, students, or unemployed prior to injury. If students or unemployed, return to work was defined as returning to normal activities. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 2  87% followed up |
| Vikane 2016 [11] | 2  Recruited as in-patient so excludes those discharged from ED | 1 | 3  RTW defined as not sick listed on Norwegian Welfare Registry. Included patients that were employed and unemployed and defined return to work as ‘not on sick leave’, therefore patients that were unemployed but not on sick leave after injury were analysed along with those that were employed. | 2  RTW outcome derived from national database | 1 | 1  100% followed up |
| de Koning 2017 [40] | 1  Recruited from ED | 1 | 1  Recruited patients that were employed prior to injury. | 3  Self-report | 1 | 2  92% followed up |

# Full search strategy

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | **Search date – 09/10/2017** |
| **#** | **Database** | **Search Platform** | **Search term** |
| 1 | Medline | HDAS | (tbi).ti,ab |
| 2 | Medline | HDAS | (mtbi).ti,ab |
| 3 | Medline | HDAS | (mild tbi).ti,ab |
| 4 | Medline | HDAS | ("mild tbi").ti,ab |
| 5 | Medline | HDAS | (minor tbi).ti,ab |
| 6 | Medline | HDAS | ("minor tbi").ti,ab |
| 7 | Medline | HDAS | (mild traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 8 | Medline | HDAS | ("mild traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 9 | Medline | HDAS | (minor traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 10 | Medline | HDAS | ("minor traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 11 | Medline | HDAS | (mild head injury).ti,ab |
| 12 | Medline | HDAS | ("mild head injury").ti,ab |
| 13 | Medline | HDAS | (minor head injury).ti,ab |
| 14 | Medline | HDAS | ("minor head injury").ti,ab |
| 15 | Medline | HDAS | (mild head trauma).ti,ab |
| 16 | Medline | HDAS | ("mild head trauma").ti,ab |
| 17 | Medline | HDAS | (minor head trauma).ti,ab |
| 18 | Medline | HDAS | ("minor head trauma").ti,ab |
| 19 | Medline | HDAS | (minor brain trauma).ti,ab |
| 20 | Medline | HDAS | ("minor brain trauma").ti,ab |
| 21 | Medline | HDAS | (concussion).ti,ab |
| 22 | Medline | HDAS | (concus\*).ti,ab |
| 23 | Medline | HDAS | exp "BRAIN CONCUSSION"/ |
| 24 | Medline | HDAS | exp "BRAIN INJURIES"/ OR exp "CRANIOCEREBRAL TRAUMA"/ |
| 25 | Medline | HDAS | (1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9 OR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR 13 OR 14 OR 15 OR 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19 OR 20 OR 21 OR 22) |
| 26 | Medline | HDAS | (23 OR 24) |
| 27 | Medline | HDAS | exp "RETURN TO WORK"/ |
| 28 | Medline | HDAS | ("return to work").ti,ab |
| 29 | Medline | HDAS | (27 OR 28) |
| 30 | Medline | HDAS | (25 AND 28) |
| 31 | Medline | HDAS | (26 AND 27) |
| 32 | Medline | HDAS | (30 OR 31) |
| 33 | EMBASE | HDAS | (tbi).ti,ab |
| 34 | EMBASE | HDAS | (mtbi).ti,ab |
| 35 | EMBASE | HDAS | (mild tbi).ti,ab |
| 36 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("mild tbi").ti,ab |
| 37 | EMBASE | HDAS | (minor tbi).ti,ab |
| 38 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("minor tbi").ti,ab |
| 39 | EMBASE | HDAS | (mild traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 40 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("mild traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 41 | EMBASE | HDAS | (minor traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 42 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("minor traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 43 | EMBASE | HDAS | (mild head injury).ti,ab |
| 44 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("mild head injury").ti,ab |
| 45 | EMBASE | HDAS | (minor head injury).ti,ab |
| 46 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("minor head injury").ti,ab |
| 47 | EMBASE | HDAS | (mild head trauma).ti,ab |
| 48 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("mild head trauma").ti,ab |
| 49 | EMBASE | HDAS | (minor head trauma).ti,ab |
| 50 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("minor head trauma").ti,ab |
| 51 | EMBASE | HDAS | (minor brain trauma).ti,ab |
| 52 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("minor brain trauma").ti,ab |
| 53 | EMBASE | HDAS | (concussion).ti,ab |
| 54 | EMBASE | HDAS | (concus\*).ti,ab |
| 64 | EMBASE | HDAS | (33 OR 34 OR 35 OR 36 OR 37 OR 38 OR 39 OR 40 OR 41 OR 42 OR 43 OR 44 OR 45 OR 46 OR 47 OR 48 OR 49 OR 50 OR 51 OR 52 OR 53 OR 54) |
| 55 | EMBASE | HDAS | exp "BRAIN INJURY"/ OR exp "BRAIN CONCUSSION"/ |
| 56 | EMBASE | HDAS | exp "TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY"/ |
| 57 | EMBASE | HDAS | exp "POSTCONCUSSION SYNDROME"/ |
| 58 | EMBASE | HDAS | (55 OR 56 OR 57) |
| 59 | EMBASE | HDAS | exp "RETURN TO WORK"/ |
| 60 | EMBASE | HDAS | exp "WORK RESUMPTION"/ |
| 61 | EMBASE | HDAS | ("return to work").ti,ab |
| 62 | EMBASE | HDAS | (59 OR 60) |
| 63 | EMBASE | HDAS | (58 AND 62) |
| 65 | EMBASE | HDAS | (61 AND 64) |
| 66 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (tbi).ti,ab |
| 67 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (mtbi).ti,ab |
| 68 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (mild tbi).ti,ab |
| 69 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("mild tbi").ti,ab |
| 70 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (minor tbi).ti,ab |
| 71 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("minor tbi").ti,ab |
| 72 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (mild traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 73 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("mild traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 74 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (minor traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 75 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("minor traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 76 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (mild head injury).ti,ab |
| 77 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("mild head injury").ti,ab |
| 78 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (minor head injury).ti,ab |
| 79 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("minor head injury").ti,ab |
| 80 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (mild head trauma).ti,ab |
| 81 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("mild head trauma").ti,ab |
| 82 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (minor head trauma).ti,ab |
| 83 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("minor head trauma").ti,ab |
| 84 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (minor brain trauma).ti,ab |
| 85 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("minor brain trauma").ti,ab |
| 86 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (concussion).ti,ab |
| 87 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (concus\*).ti,ab |
| 91 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (66 OR 67 OR 68 OR 69 OR 70 OR 71 OR 72 OR 73 OR 74 OR 75 OR 76 OR 77 OR 78 OR 79 OR 80 OR 81 OR 82 OR 83 OR 84 OR 85 OR 86 OR 87) |
| 88 | PsycINFO | HDAS | exp "BRAIN CONCUSSION"/ OR exp "TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY"/ OR exp "HEAD INJURIES"/ |
| 89 | PsycINFO | HDAS | exp REEMPLOYMENT/ |
| 90 | PsycINFO | HDAS | ("return to work").ti,ab |
| 92 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (88 AND 89) |
| 93 | PsycINFO | HDAS | (91 AND 90) |
| 94 | PubMed | HDAS | (tbi).ti,ab |
| 95 | PubMed | HDAS | (mtbi).ti,ab |
| 96 | PubMed | HDAS | (mild tbi).ti,ab |
| 97 | PubMed | HDAS | ("mild tbi").ti,ab |
| 98 | PubMed | HDAS | (minor tbi).ti,ab |
| 99 | PubMed | HDAS | ("minor tbi").ti,ab |
| 100 | PubMed | HDAS | (mild traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 101 | PubMed | HDAS | ("mild traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 102 | PubMed | HDAS | (minor traumatic brain injury).ti,ab |
| 103 | PubMed | HDAS | ("minor traumatic brain injury").ti,ab |
| 104 | PubMed | HDAS | (mild head injury).ti,ab |
| 105 | PubMed | HDAS | ("mild head injury").ti,ab |
| 106 | PubMed | HDAS | (minor head injury).ti,ab |
| 107 | PubMed | HDAS | ("minor head injury").ti,ab |
| 108 | PubMed | HDAS | (mild head trauma).ti,ab |
| 109 | PubMed | HDAS | ("mild head trauma").ti,ab |
| 110 | PubMed | HDAS | (minor head trauma).ti,ab |
| 111 | PubMed | HDAS | ("minor head trauma").ti,ab |
| 112 | PubMed | HDAS | (minor brain trauma).ti,ab |
| 113 | PubMed | HDAS | ("minor brain trauma").ti,ab |
| 114 | PubMed | HDAS | (concussion).ti,ab |
| 115 | PubMed | HDAS | (concus\*).ti,ab |
| 116 | PubMed | HDAS | ("return to work").ti,ab |
| 117 | PubMed | HDAS | (94 OR 95 OR 96 OR 97 OR 98 OR 99 OR 100 OR 101 OR 102 OR 103 OR 104 OR 105 OR 106 OR 107 OR 108 OR 109 OR 110 OR 111 OR 112 OR 113 OR 114 OR 115) |
| 118 | PubMed | HDAS | (116 AND 117) |
| 1 | PubMed | PubMed | concussion[MeSH Terms] |
| 2 | PubMed | PubMed | mild traumatic brain injury[MeSH Terms] |
| 3 | PubMed | PubMed | ("Brain Concussion"[Mesh]) AND "Return to Work"[Mesh Terms] |
| #1 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | tbi |
| #2 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | mtbi |
| #3 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | mild tbi |
| #4 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "mild tbi" |
| #5 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | minor tbi |
| #6 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "minor tbi" |
| #7 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | mild traumatic brain injury |
| #8 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "mild traumatic brain injury" |
| #9 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | minor traumatic brain injury |
| #10 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "minor traumatic brain injury" |
| #11 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | mild head injury |
| #12 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "mild head injury" |
| #13 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | minor head injury |
| #14 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "minor head injury" |
| #15 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | mild head trauma |
| #16 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "mild head trauma" |
| #17 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | minor head trauma |
| #18 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "minor head trauma" |
| #19 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | minor brain trauma |
| #20 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "minor brain trauma" |
| #21 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | concussion |
| #22 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | concus\* |
| #23 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | #1 or #2 or #3 or #4 or #5 or #6 or #7 or #8 or #9 or #10 or #11 or #12 or #13 or #14 or #15 or #16 or #17 or #18 or #19 or #20 or #21 or #22 |
| #24 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | MeSH descriptor: [Brain Concussion] explode all trees |
| #25 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | MeSH descriptor: [Brain Injuries] explode all trees |
| #26 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | #24 or #25 |
| #27 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | #23 or #26 |
| #28 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | "return to work" |
| #29 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | return to work |
| #30 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | MeSH descriptor: [Return to Work] explode all trees |
| #31 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | #28 or #29 or #30 |
| #32 | Cochrane library | Cochrane database of systematic reviews | #27 and #31 |
| 1 | Trip database | | ((("mild traumatic brain injury") OR (concussion)) AND ("return to work")) |
| 1 | Clinicaltrials.gov | | Mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | Clinicaltrials.gov | | Return to work |
| 1 | European Clinical Trials Registry (EU-CTR) | | Mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | European Clinical Trials Registry (EU-CTR) | | Concussion |
| 3 | European Clinical Trials Registry (EU-CTR) | | Return to work |
| 1 | ISRCTN | | Condition: mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | ISRCTN | | Condition: concussion |
| 1 | Australia and New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry (ANZCTR) | | Mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | Australia and New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry (ANZCTR) | | Concussion |
| 1 | Clinical Trials Registry of India (CTRI) | | Mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | Clinical Trials Registry of India (CTRI) | | Concussion |
| 1 | China Clinical Trials Registry (ChiCTR) | | Mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | China Clinical Trials Registry (ChiCTR) | | Concussion |
| 1 | Brazilian Clinical Trials Registry (ReBec) | | Mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | Brazilian Clinical Trials Registry (ReBec) | | Concussion |
| 1 | Pan-African Clinical Trials Registry (PACTR) | | Mild traumatic brain injury |
| 2 | Pan-African Clinical Trials Registry (PACTR) | | Concussion |

# Data dictionary for data abstraction

If data not available for abstraction leave blank

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of data point | Description of data point | Data points |
| UI | Unique identifier for this review | numerical |
| Au\_F | First Author | text |
| Journal | Journal | text |
| Year | Year | numerical |
| St\_tr | Study or trial | 1=study, 2=trial |
| Pr\_Rt | Prospective or retrospective | 1=prospective, 2=retrospective |
| RTW\_ave/prop | RTW is reported as average or as proportion at pre-defined time point | 1=average, 2=proportion |
| No\_pt | Number of patients in study | numerical |
| No\_F/U | Number of patients followed up | numerical |
| Prop\_F/U | Percentage followed up out of included | numerical |
| No\_gp\_1 | Number of patients in group 1 (if applicable) | numerical |
| No\_gp\_2 | Number of patients in group 2 (if applicable) | numerical |
| No\_gp\_3 | Number of patients in group 3 (if applicable) | numerical |
| No\_gp\_4 | Number of patients in group 4 (if applicable) | numerical |
| Nm\_gp\_1 | Name of group 1 | text |
| Nm\_gp\_2 | Name of group 2 | text |
| Nm\_gp\_3 | Name of group 3 | text |
| Nm\_gp\_4 | Name of group 4 | text |
| Setting | Setting | text |
| Mean\_age | Mean age | numerical |
| Age\_SD | Standard deviation of age | numerical |
| Med\_age | Median age if reported | numerical |
| Age\_IQR | Interquartile range of age | numerical |
| Age\_youngest | Youngest included | numerical |
| Age\_oldest | Oldest included | numerical |
| Sex\_male | Sex – proportion male | numerical |
| Ed\_secondary | Proportion up to secondary | numerical |
| Ed\_years | Mean years education | numerical |
| Def\_mTBI | Definition of mild TBI | 1=American Academy of Neurology; 2=World Health Organisation Collaborating Task Force on MTBI; 3=Center for Disease Control and Prevention; 4=American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine; 5=European Federation of Neurological Societies; 6=clinical diagnosis |
| PTA\_pr | Proportion post traumatic amnesia | numerical |
| PTA\_dur | Duration post traumatic amnesia (hours usually) | numerical |
| LOC\_pr | Loss of consciousness proportion | numerical |
| Inj\_sev\_pr | Injury Severity (blood on CT) proportion | numerical |
| RTW\_duties | Narrative description of level of duties patients RTW to work at, if reported | text |
| RTW\_mean\_time | Mean time to RTW (if reported) | numerical |
| RTW\_median\_time | Median time to RTW (if reported) | numerical |
| Pre\_d\_t\_1 | Pre-defined time point 1 | text |
| Pre\_d\_t\_2 | Pre-defined time point 2 | text |
| Pre\_d\_t\_3 | Pre-defined time point 3 | text |
| Pre\_d\_t\_4 | Pre-defined time point 4 | text |
| Prop\_RTW\_t\_1 | Proportion of cohort that RTW at time point 1 | numerical |
| Prop\_RTW\_t\_2 | Proportion of cohort that RTW at time point 2 | numerical |
| Prop\_RTW\_t\_3 | Proportion of cohort that RTW at time point 3 | numerical |
| Prop\_RTW\_t\_4 | Proportion of cohort that RTW at time point 4 | numerical |
| Pred\_v | Predictor/independent variable(s) if study, intervention if trial | text |
| Outcome\_v | Outcome/dependent variable(s) if study, control if trial | text |
| Effect\_est | Effect estimates (RR/OR) | 1=RR, 2=OR |
| Selection\_MH\_drugs\_TBI | Excluded patients if MH, drugs/alcohol, prev TBI | 1=Y, 2=N |
| Selection\_rep | Representativeness of the exposed cohort | 1=truly representative of the average mild TBI\* ; 2=somewhat representative of the average mild TBI\*; 3=selected group of users e.g. nurses, volunteers; 4=no description of the derivation of the cohort |
| Selection\_sel | Selection of the non-exposed cohort | 1=drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort\*; 2=drawn from a different source; 3=no description of the derivation of the non-exposed cohort |
| Selection\_asc | Ascertainment of exposure | 1=secure record (e.g. surgical records)\*; 2=structured interview\*; 3=written self-report; 4=no description |
| Selection\_dem | Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study | 1=yes\*; 2=no |
| Comparibility\_com | Comparability of cohorts based on the design or analysis | 1=study controls for mild TBI\*, 2=study controls for any additional factor\* (this criteria could be modified to indicate specific control for a second important factor) |
| Outcome\_ass | Assessment of outcome | 1=independent blind assessment\*; 2=record linkage\*; 3=self-report; 4=no description |
| Outcome\_f/u\_t | Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur | 1=yes\*; 2=no |
| Outcome\_f/u\_adeq | Adequacy of follow up of cohorts | 1=complete follow up - all subjects accounted for\*; 2=subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias - lost <20% follow up, or description provided of those lost)\*; 3=follow up rate <50% and no description of those lost; 4=no statement |
| Pop\_empl\_pre-mTBI | Was the sample population employed prior to the injury? | 1=all workers, 2=employed including student/homemaker/other activity, 3=unclear, 4=not described |
| Pop\_employed\_pre-mTBI\_notes | Description of pre-injury employment status | text |

# Figure. Return to work proportions at time-points by study

