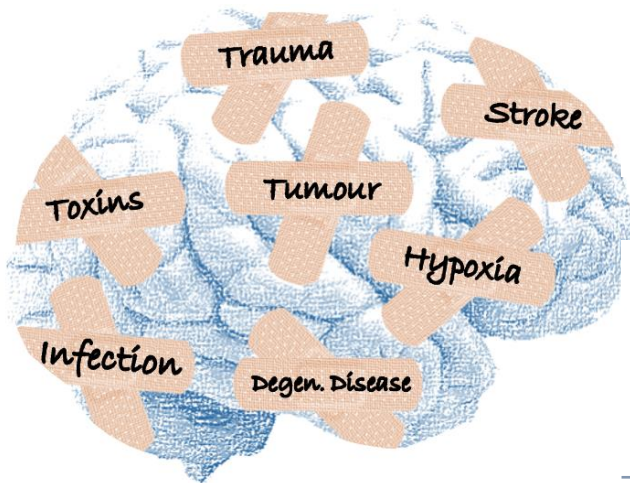


Acquired Brain Injury

What is ABI

Acquired Brain Injury describes multiple disabilities that can result from damage to a person's brain at a time after their birth. There are multiple ways a brain can sustain sufficient damage to categorise a person as having an ABI.

How do Acquired Brain Injuries occur?



TRAUMA	Direct impact
STROKE	Lack of blood and oxygen
TOXINS	Drugs and alcohol
TUMOUR	Growths and surgery
HYPOXIA	Lack of oxygen
DEGEN. DISEASE	Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Dementia
INFECTION	Toxic consequences

Brain Injury can have multiple effects

poor memory reduced ability to problem solve
reduced ability to plan **disinhibition**
irritability **depression** heightened emotions
poor concentration **impulsivity**
reduced capacity to regulate emotions
lack of consequential decision making
difficulty absorbing new information **aggression**

The brain has 100 billion neurons and over a million billion connections. It is a powerful but fragile organ

Justice • Respect • Persistence

P 1300 665 908

www.justiceadvocacyservice.org.au

Regional Disability Advocacy Service will deliver JAS in Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith

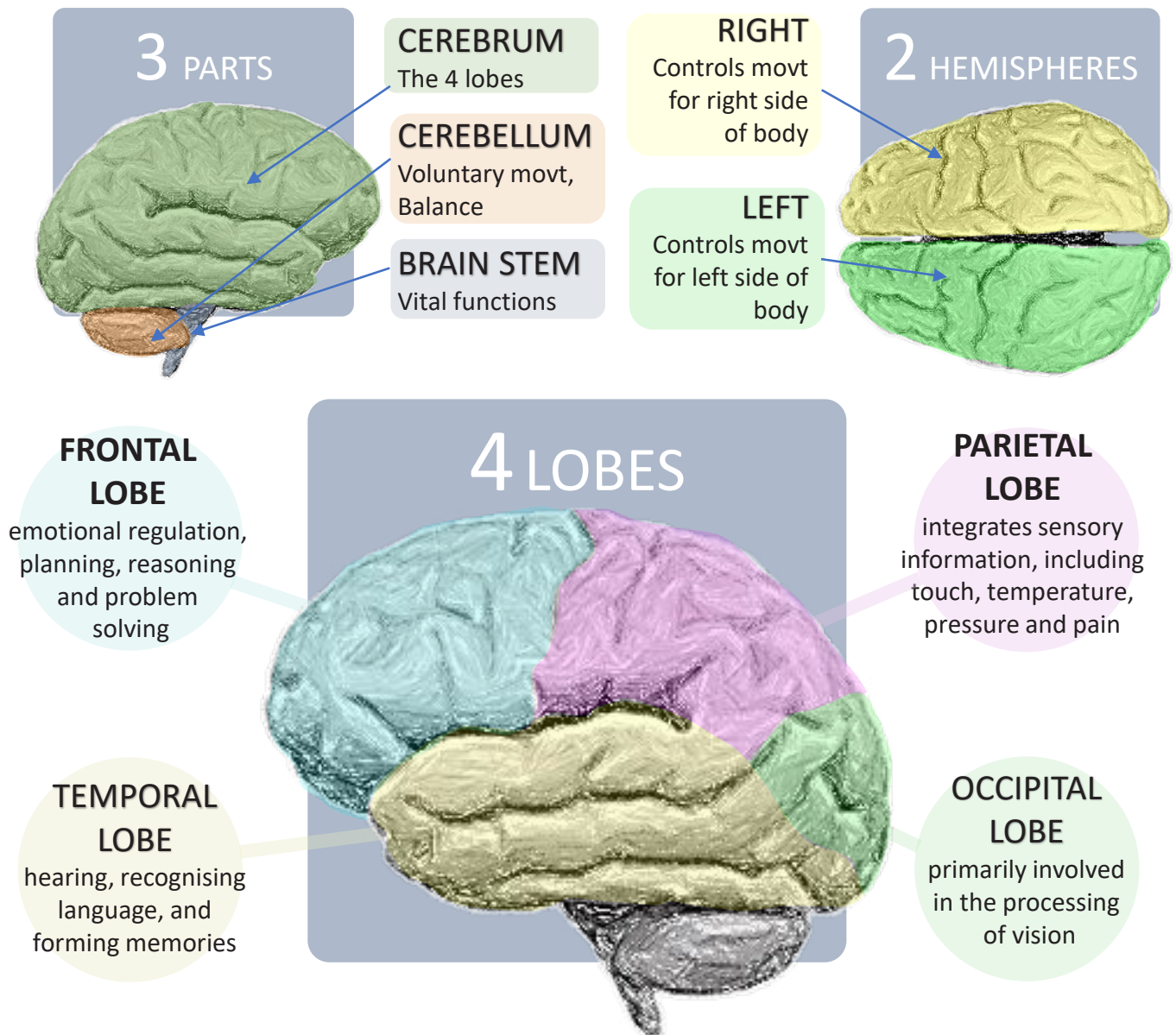


IDRS acknowledges JAS funding from the New South Wales Government

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Making Rights Real

The Brain at a glance

The functioning of Human Brain has become much better known in recent years but this organ is so incredibly complex there is so much more to discover. The whole brain works together but there are some basically grouped areas that seem to do certain jobs...



ABI and the Criminal Justice System

Damage to any part of the brain can have significant effects. Damage to the Frontal and Temporal Lobes in particular is associated with criminal behaviour and increased aggression.

People who have damage to these areas of their brains may:

- Have difficulties concentrating for long periods
- Not be able to empathise and understand their impact on others
- Have trouble controlling impulses and emotional reactions
- Have challenges being flexible, learning and changing behaviour

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