At age 55, Henry Cluney, a founding member of the seminal Belfast punk rock band Stiff Little Fingers, is still making music. But during his last tour, which wrapped up in September, he says something seemed a bit off. While on tour, he started getting headaches and became dizzy. During one show, a pal told Belfast’s Sunday World, Cluney seemed confused and asked what he was doing there. Cluney wrote it off to new medications he was taking and planned to get that fixed when he got back to his current home base of Rochester. (Yes, the one in Minnesota.)

But on Oct. 3, the day after he got home, Cluney blacked out (or came “as close as you need to be”) and collapsed, taking a few household items with him as he fell. His wife, Carol Purcell, Mayo Clinic Health Solutions, wasn’t having any more of that and brought him to Mayo’s Emergency Department to get him checked out. Cluney was still convinced it was the medications, but his doctors weren’t, and a scan showed it was something a little bigger: a brain tumor the size of a baseball.
The tumor, thankfully, proved to be benign. But getting it out was no mean feat. “That thing had grown so big that honestly I don’t know how they did it,” Cluney says. He and Purcell both express amazement and gratefulness for the skill of the Mayo surgeons and the care and support of the staff who’ve aided his recovery. Their praise is matched by that of Cluney’s fans back home, many of whom have followed the ongoing coverage in the Belfast press, which applauded Mayo Clinic for saving their “punk legend.” And Cluney’s surgeon, Jason Hoover, M.D., has become something of a folk hero there.

Speaking of back home in Northern Ireland, friends, fans and former bandmates there have put together a fundraiser to help Cluney with his medical bills. “Kicking Up A Racket for Henry Cluney” will take place at the Black Box in Belfast’s Cathedral Quarter on Dec. 1, according to the Sunday World. It’s turned into an all-day event with more bands wanting to kick up a racket for Henry than one day can hold. Cluney says he’s been overwhelmed by the support he’s received, and while he won’t be able to be there in person, he does plan to send a message via video to his old mates.

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Mayo TBIMS funded 2012 to 2017

The Mayo Clinic Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (TBIMS) is pleased to announce it has been selected for continued funding by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR). Mayo Clinic represents the upper Midwest and was funded along with 15 other centers situated primarily in urban settings.

In its fourth funding cycle, the Mayo Clinic TBIMS will conduct one local research project. Lack of access to specialized TBI care is a common need identified by individuals hospitalized for TBI. Explosive advances in communication technology have brought telemedicine to the forefront of health care. The CONNECT Trial aims to remotely connect the following groups to Mayo TBI rehabilitation specialists and to each other using traditional (telephone, mail) and other (web based, email, smart phone, text, social media, Skype) communication technology:

- Individuals recently hospitalized with TBI
- Their families
- Their local health care and other providers (primary care providers, other doctors, psychologists, therapists, social service providers, job counselors, etc.).

We want to test the extent to which remotely partnering with local providers to do TBI related assessment and treatment, provide TBI specific education, consult on management of common TBI problems, and help coordinate care to promote recovery and return to work, school and

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family life is feasible, effective, and satisfying to everybody involved.

We are conducting this first-of-its-kind study in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Possible research subjects will be identified through collaboration with the Departments of Health in Minnesota and Iowa, Sanford Health in North Dakota, and Regional Health in South Dakota. We are especially interested in learning more about the possible benefit of this approach for people who live in rural areas, the elderly, and Native Americans since these populations are at greater risk for TBI, and may be more isolated from specialized TBI services. The long term outcome of this study is to reduce barriers to accessing specialized TBI rehabilitation care faced by individuals with TBI and their families.

In addition, the Mayo TBIMS will continue to work with other TBIMS centers on collaborative module-based research. Specific topics of interest for this funding cycle are being debated, and will be finalized sometime this year. All TBIMS centers recruit new subjects and conduct long term follow up on previously recruited subjects for the national TBI data base housed at the TBI National Data & Statistical Center (http://www.tbindsc.org/). Located at Craig Hospital in Englewood, Colo., this center serves as a central resource for researchers and data collectors within the TBIMS program. The primary purpose of the center is to advance medical rehabilitation by increasing the rigor and efficiency of scientific efforts and to assess the experience of individuals with TBI over the long term. The National Data & Statistical Center provides technical assistance, training, and methodological consultation to all 16 TBIMS centers as they conduct research toward evidence-based TBI rehabilitation interventions.

Mayo Clinic TBIMS staff who will be working on both local and national research projects during the 2012 - 2017 funding cycle include:
- Dr. Allen Brown, Project Director, Medical Director
- Dr. Tom Bergquist, Co-Investigator
- Jay Mandrekar, PhD, Biostatistics, Statistician
- Anne Moessner, RN, MSN, Project Coordinator
- Nancy Diehl, MS, Data Manager
- Kathy Kendall, RN, BSN, Module Coordinator
- Pam Nieman, Study Coordinator
- Gina Mitchell, SLP-CCC, Speech Pathologist
- Anita Milburn, LICSW, Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- Cori King, MA, Vocational Coordinator
NIDRR also funds the Knowledge Translation Center (http://www.msktc.org/) to summarize research, identify health information needs, and develop systems for sharing information generated by the NIDRR model systems in TBI, spinal cord injury, and burn injury. Searchable databases of TBIMS research publications and a resource list of major TBI organizations are readily accessible. The Knowledge Translation Center conducts systematic reviews of research evidence through compiling, evaluating and summarizing published research evidence relating to TBI in order to provide practitioners, consumers and others with the best and latest information available for making health decisions. In addition, helpful TBI fact sheets about common TBI residuals have been developed by TBIMS experts, and are available for downloading.

**TBI Factsheets**
- Understanding TBI - 4 Part Series
- Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation
- Alcohol & TBI
- Balance Problems & TBI
- Cognitive Problems
- Depression
- Driving
- Emotional Problems
- Fatigue
- Headaches
- Relationships After TBI
- Returning to School
- Seizures
- Sexuality
- Sleep
- Vegetative & Minimally Conscious States

**Coming Soon**
- TBI & Vocational Rehabilitation
- TBI & Vision Problems
Publications: Peer-Reviewed Articles Published by Current TBIMS Staff


Brain Rehabilitation Day Program (BRDP) Monthly Support Group

Current and past participants of the Mayo BRDP or former BIOP are invited to attend a monthly support group, held the second Wednesday evening of each month, at 7 p.m. at Saint Marys Hospital, 1-Domitilla. Meetings are also open to current and past family members.

Partnership Approach to Brain Injury

Family members, friends, and interested persons are invited to attend The Partnership Approach to Brain Injury offered twice a year, usually in the fall and spring. This educational program teaches ways to cope with common problems following brain injury. For more information, or to be added to the mailing list for the Partnership program, call 507-255-3116.

Mayo’s Passion for Innovation

Mayo’s commitment to innovation is not new. It began in the late 1800s when Drs. William and Charles Mayo founded their medical practice around an innovative concept — the integrated team practice. They knew then what we continue to acknowledge today — innovation doesn’t happen by chance. Transforming an innovative idea into a practical solution demands process, discipline and focus.

Formally established as the Mayo Clinic Center for Innovation in 2008, the 50+ member multidisciplinary team is now the largest among a growing number of research and testing centers for new health care delivery concepts at U.S. academic and non-profit medical centers. Its mission is to transform the way health care is experienced and delivered and to make these discoveries and solutions available for all people, not just Mayo Clinic patients.

Pioneering what can only be called a Mayo Clinic-style of health care innovations, the Center for Innovation is staffed with design professionals, many of whom are top design school graduates, as well as project managers and specialists from a wide variety of disciplines whose aim is to help innovative thinkers bring their ideas to life and team with colleagues to keep the institution moving forward – testing
new concepts and bringing them quickly into the practice. Team members are recruited with expertise in health care, information technology, anthropology, communication, human factors engineering, education, and other disciplines as needed on given projects. The CFI space at Mayo is designed to facilitate innovative behaviors including collaboration, transparency and room to build and prototype.

The TBI Model System is thrilled to be collaborating with CFI’s Beth Kreofsky and Matthew Gardner on development of the information and communication technologies to be used in the CONNECT Trial.

Beth Kreofsky is Project Manager, she holds a Bachelors of Science in Strategic Management of Information Systems along with Project Management Professional certification and has been with CFI for 5 years.

Matthew Gardner is a Service Designer with a Master of Design, IIT Institute of Design and MBA, IIT Stuart Graduate School of Business, and has 2.83 years at CFI and at Mayo.
OUR MISSION:
The primary mission of the Mayo Clinic TBI Model System is (1) to study the course of long-term recovery after traumatic brain injury (TBI), and (2) to develop, provide and evaluate innovative services to address identified needs for service coordination and community reintegration for persons with TBI.

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This newsletter is published
Winter and Summer of each year.

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