From Knowledge, Strength. Through Research, Hope.

## **SEPTEMBER IS CHIARI AWARENESS MONTH**

Did Something Trigger Your Symptoms?

One of the many Chiari mysteries is what causes people to become symptomatic? While it is not well understood, published research over the years has indicated that for a certain percentage of people, a traumatic event precipitated the onset of Chiari symptoms. This is supported by data from the Chiari 1000. Of the 1,366 people who completed the symptom portion of the survey, 436 (32%) said they remember a specific event which triggered their Chiari symptoms. The specific events cited were:

| Car accident    | 16%    | Physical Exertion | 8%  |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------|-----|
| Fall            | 12%    | Sports Injury     | 6%  |
| Pregnancy       | 11%    | Manual Labor      | 4%  |
| Other Head Trau | ma 10% | Other             | 33% |

The link between these types of traumas and symptom onset is not known, but the role of inflammation would seem a good target for investigation.

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