**Supplemental Digital Content: Prevalence of Traumatic Brain Injury among Prisoners in South Carolina**

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*Method Note #1*.

Sampling methodology: Every two months SCDC provided investigators a list of inmates with a projected release or parole date within the next 3 to 4 months, until the target sample was reached [see Figure below in Supplemental Digital Content]. Investigators used computerized sampling to select potential participants from this list for potential interview. One group not accessible for sampling was Youthful Offender Act (YOA) releases, which make up approximately 13% of releases from SCDC. YOA inmates are ages 17 through 25 with indeterminate release dates, and access to their parole information was unavailable. Some of these inmates inadvertently showed up in the SCDC lists and were sampled and interviewed (n = 10). All non-parole releases were termed ‘max-outs’ and included release through completion of sentence, community supervision, probation, or remanded sentence. If inmates eligible for parole elected to attend a parole hearing and were granted parole, they could be released within days or held to complete specific requirements (such as substance abuse counseling) before release. To represent inmates not being released, a sample of inmates sentenced to death or life was taken and termed ‘non-releases’.

Investigators sent the sample of study-eligible male inmates (max-out and non-releases) to RTI for potential interview. However, so few female inmates were being released that the entire eligible population was sent from each list. Previously, only a small percent of inmates eligible for parole had obtained parole, and release status remained unknown until the hearing date. In order to interview parolees, a representative of the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (DPPPS) contacted investigators following the usually weekly parole hearings to inform them of inmates granted parole. Information on any study-eligible inmates granted parole was then provided to RTI. Since few inmates were granted parole, the entire eligible population was sent. Some inmates in each SCDC population had both parole hearing and max-out dates during the 3- to 4-month window. If a max-out date followed a parole date within 3 months, that inmate was included in the max-out population since expiration of sentence was the most likely avenue of release. If that inmate was interviewed, and released via parole, the inmate’s release status was changed after release.

Due to slow accrual of released females, as the end of data collection was approaching, it was decided to recruit additional long-term female inmates to reach the goal of 318 interviewed females. All eligible females sentenced to life without parole had already been approached for interview (no eligible females had a death sentence). Accordingly, the definition of ‘non-release’ for females was expanded to include females with sentences of greater than 10 years who would not be released for at least two more years (termed ‘long-term’ inmates). Rather than sampling randomly, names of those with the longest sentences were sent first to RTI for interview in order to approximate the original group. As a result, 13 females were interviewed who had life sentences of 20 or more years (in SC, life sentences prior to 1/1/96 had 10, 20, and 30 year parole requirements). In addition, one female with a non-life sentence of greater than 30 years was interviewed, but since she was the only one with a non-life sentence, and characteristics of females with life sentences were different from those with long non-life sentences, she was excluded in these analyses for determining prevalence.

Figure [Supplemental Digital Content]. Sampling of inmates.

