

Tool to Identify a Suspected Concussion

Identification of Suspected Concussion

Following a blow to the head, face or neck, or a blow to the body that transmits a force to the head, a concussion must be suspected in the presence of any one or more of the signs or symptoms outlined in the chart below and/or the failure of the Quick Memory Function Assessment.

1. Check appropriate box

An incident occurred involving _____ on _____.
(player name) (date)

He/she was observed for signs and symptoms of a concussion.

- No signs or symptoms described below were noted at the time. Note: Continued monitoring of the player is important as signs and symptoms of a concussion may appear hours or days later (refer to #4 below).
- The following signs were observed or symptoms reported:

Signs and Symptoms of Suspected Concussion	
Possible Signs Observed <i>A sign is something that is observed by another person (e.g., parent/guardian, teacher, coach, supervisor, peer).</i>	Possible Symptoms Reported <i>A symptom is something the player will feel/report.</i>
Physical <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> vomiting <input type="checkbox"/> slurred speech <input type="checkbox"/> slowed reaction time <input type="checkbox"/> poor coordination or balance <input type="checkbox"/> blank stare/glassy-eyed/dazed or vacant look <input type="checkbox"/> decreased playing ability <input type="checkbox"/> loss of consciousness or lack of responsiveness <input type="checkbox"/> lying motionless on the ground or slow to get up <input type="checkbox"/> amnesia <input type="checkbox"/> seizure or convulsion <input type="checkbox"/> grabbing or clutching of head 	Physical <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> headache <input type="checkbox"/> pressure in head <input type="checkbox"/> neck pain <input type="checkbox"/> feeling off/not right <input type="checkbox"/> ringing in the ears <input type="checkbox"/> seeing double or blurry/loss of vision <input type="checkbox"/> seeing stars, flashing lights <input type="checkbox"/> pain at physical site of injury <input type="checkbox"/> nausea/stomach ache/pain <input type="checkbox"/> balance problems or dizziness <input type="checkbox"/> fatigue or feeling tired <input type="checkbox"/> sensitivity to light or noise
Cognitive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> difficulty concentrating <input type="checkbox"/> easily distracted <input type="checkbox"/> general confusion <input type="checkbox"/> cannot remember things that happened before and after the injury (see Quick Memory Function Assessment on page 2) <input type="checkbox"/> does not know time, date, place, class, type of activity in which he/she was participating <input type="checkbox"/> slowed reaction time (e.g., answering questions or following directions) 	Cognitive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> difficulty concentrating or remembering <input type="checkbox"/> slowed down, fatigue or low energy <input type="checkbox"/> dazed or in a fog
Emotional/Behavioural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> strange or inappropriate emotions (e.g., laughing, crying, getting angry easily) 	Emotional/Behavioural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> irritable, sad, more emotional than usual <input type="checkbox"/> nervous, anxious, depressed
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 	Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/>

If any observed signs or symptoms worsen, call 911.

2. Perform Quick Memory Function Assessment

Ask the player the following questions, recording the answers below. Failure to answer any one of these questions correctly may indicate a concussion:

- “At what venue are we at today?” Answer: _____
- “Which half is it now?” Answer: _____
- “Who scored last in this game?” Answer: _____
- “What team did you play last week /game?” Answer: _____
- “Did your team win the last game?” Answer: _____

3. Action to be Taken

If there are any signs observed or symptoms reported, or if the player fails to answer any of the above questions correctly:

- a concussion should be suspected;
- the player must be immediately removed from play and must not be allowed to return to play that day even if the player states that he/she is feeling better; and
- the player must not leave the premises without parent/guardian (or emergency contact) supervision.

In all cases of a suspected concussion, the player must be examined by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner for diagnosis and must follow the Club’s *Concussion Policy* and *Return to Play* process.

4. Continued Monitoring by Parent/Guardian

- Players should be monitored for 24 – 48 hours following the incident as signs and symptoms can appear immediately after the injury or may take hours or days to emerge.
- If any signs or symptoms emerge, the player needs to be examined by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner as soon as possible that day.

5. Team Administrator name: _____

Team Administrator signature: _____ Date: _____

This completed form must be copied, with the original filed with the Club and a copy provided to parent/guardian.