

Ohio Department of Health Concussion Information Sheet

For Interscholastic Athletics

Acknowledgement of Having Received the "Ohio Department of Health's Concussion and Head Injury Information Sheet"

By signing this form, as the parent/guardian/care-giver of the student-athlete named below, I acknowledge receiving a copy of the concussion and head injury information sheet prepared by the Ohio Department of Health as required by section 3313.539 of the Revised Code.

I understand concussions and other head injuries have serious and possibly long-lasting effects.

By reading the information sheet, I understand I have a responsibility to report any signs or symptoms of a concussion or head injury to coaches, administrators and my student-athlete's doctor.

I also understand that coaches, referees and other officials have a responsibility to protect the health of the student-athletes and may prohibit my student-athlete from further participation in athletic programs until my student-athlete has been cleared to return by a physician or other appropriate health care professional.



Athlete (Please Print)

Date

Parent/Guardian

Date

Returning to Daily Activities

1. Be sure your child gets plenty of rest and enough sleep at night – no late nights. Keep the same bedtime weekdays and weekends.
2. Encourage daytime naps or rest breaks when your child feels tired or worn-out.
3. Limit your child's activities that require a lot of thinking or concentration (including social activities, homework, video games, texting, computer, driving, job-related activities, movies, parties). These activities can slow the brain's recovery.
4. Limit your child's physical activity, especially those activities where another injury or blow to the head may occur.
5. Have your qualified health care professional check your child's symptoms at different times to help guide recovery.

Returning to School

1. Your athlete may need to initially return to school on a limited basis, for example for only half-days, at first. This should be done under the supervision of a qualified health care professional.
2. Inform teacher(s), school counselor or administrator(s) about the injury and symptoms. School personnel should be instructed to watch for:

- a. *Increased problems paying attention.*
- b. *Increased problems remembering or learning new information.*
- c. *Longer time needed to complete tasks or assignments.*
- d. *Greater irritability and decreased ability to cope with stress.*
- e. *Symptoms worsen (headache, tiredness) when doing schoolwork.*

3. Be sure your child takes multiple breaks during study time and watch for worsening of symptoms.
4. If your child is still having concussion symptoms, he/she may need extra help with school-related activities. As the symptoms decrease during recovery, the extra help or supports can be removed gradually.

Resources

ODH Violence and Injury Prevention Program
www.healthvohioprogram.org/vipp/injury.aspx

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/Concussion

National Federation of State High School Associations
www.nfhs.org

Brain Injury Association of America
www.biausa.org/

Returning to Play

1. Returning to play is specific for each person, depending on the sport. *Starting 4/26/13, Ohio law requires written permission from a health care provider before an athlete can return to play.* Follow instructions and guidance provided by a health care professional. It is important that you, your child and your child's coach follow these instructions carefully.
2. Your child should NEVER return to play if he/she still has ANY symptoms. (Be sure that your child does not have any symptoms at rest and while doing any physical activity and/or activities that require a lot of thinking or concentration).
3. Be sure that the athletic trainer, coach and physical education teacher are aware of your child's injury and symptoms.
4. Your athlete should complete a step-by-step exercise-based progression, under the direction of a qualified healthcare professional.
5. A sample activity progression is listed below. Generally, each step should take no less than 24 hours so that your child's full recovery would take about one week once they have no symptoms at rest and with moderate exercise.*

Sample Activity Progression*

Step 1: Low levels of non-contact physical activity, provided NO SYMPTOMS return during or after activity. (Examples: walking, light jogging, and easy stationary biking for 20-30 minutes).

Step 2: Moderate, non-contact physical activity, provided NO SYMPTOMS return during or after activity. (Examples: moderate jogging, brief sprint running, moderate stationary biking, light calisthenics, and sport-specific drills without contact or collisions for 30-45 minutes).

Step 3: Heavy, non-contact physical activity, provided NO SYMPTOMS return during or after activity. (Examples: extensive sprint running, high intensity stationary biking, resistance exercise with machines and free weights, more intense non-contact sports specific drills, agility training and jumping drills for 45-60 minutes).

Step 4: Full contact in controlled practice or scrimmage.

Step 5: Full contact in game play.

*If any symptoms occur, the athlete should drop back to the previous step and try to progress again after a 24 hour rest period.



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www.healthvohioprogram.org/concussion