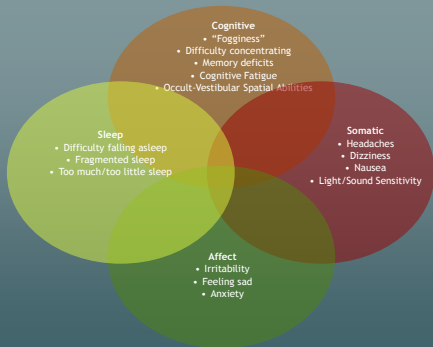


CONCUSSION UPDATE 2017

Shannon Woods MD
Medical Director CoxHealth Sports Medicine
Team Physician Evangel University
Team Physician Drury University



Goldstein, BM, Manning, M, Marshall, SW, et al. Concussion effects associated with recurrent concussion in collegiate football players: the NCAA Concussion Study

CONCUSSION HISTORY

- Further definition is needed of Phenotypic clusters to help define further research:
 - Headache
 - Vestibular
 - Psychological
 - Physiologic
 - Neurocognitive
- "Key objective of the clinical assessment should therefore be to identify specific pathologies that may be contributing to the persistence of symptoms."
- Identifying primary and secondary causes of persistent concussion symptoms.

Goldstein, M, et al. Approach to Investigation and Treatment of Persistent Symptoms Following Sports Related Concussion: A Systematic Review. Br J Sports Med. 2017; 51: 1-12

CONCUSSION HISTORY

- Symptoms-Self reported symptoms in a verbal history are often underreported.
- 22 Item Likert scale
 - 7 point scale (0-6)
 - 0-No symptoms
 - 6-Bad symptoms
- "Evolutionary process"-The Post-Concussion Symptom Scale (PCSS) and Graded Symptom Checklist (GSC)
- Sensitivity 64%–89%; Specificity 91%– 100%

Wessman RM, et al. *Br J Sports Med* 2011;45:206-211. doi:10.1136/bjsports-2011-015020

© 2011, U.S. Department of Defense Medical Conditions, Location, Evaluation and Management of Concussion in Sports, Report of the Concussion Management Subcommittee of the

22 ITEM LIKERT SCALE

Headache	4
Nausea	5
Vomiting	0
Balance Problems	1
Dizziness	6
Fatigue	4
Trouble falling asleep	5
Sleeping more than usual	0
Sleeping less than usual	0
Drowsiness	2
Sensitivity to light	2
Sensitivity to noise	3
Irritability	0
Sadness	0
Nervousness	0
Feeling more emotional	0
Numbness or tingling	6
Feeling slowed down	5
Feeling mentally foggy	4
Difficulty concentrating	4
Difficulty remembering	1
Visual problems	3
Total Symptom Score	55

SCAT 3

- Symptom Likert Scale
- Orientation
- Immediate memory
- Delayed memory
- Concentration
- Balance
- Neck Examination
- Coordination

SCAT 3

- Performed on the sideline:
 - Sensitivity-94%; Specificity of 76%
 - SCAT 2
 - When compared to baseline testing in the preseason
- In a study of youth ice hockey players:
 - Average total score of 86.9 out of 100 points
 - Until now no data on long term use?

Wong, M. Standardized Baseline Assessment of Sports Concussion. Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine, 2005, 15(17), 104-109.
Gonzalez, L. et al. Effects of Concussion on Balance in the 2-Week Post-Concussion. J. Sports Med. 2012; 17:200-208.
Wong, M. Standard Baseline Assessment of Sports Concussion: A Practical Approach to Concussion Assessment for Athletes. Concussion Assessment and Management.

SCAT 3

► Maddocks Score

TABLE 3. Orientation items (number correct)

Item	Concussed	Nonconcussed	χ^2	p
1. Month?	27	28	0.00*	1.00
2. Date of birth?	27	28	0.00*	1.00
3. Age?	25	28	1.67*	.24
4. Year?	24	28	2.42*	.12
5. Month?	22	28	1.37*	.25
6. Day?	23	28	3.51*	.06
7. Month?	12	19	3.34	.06
8. Time?	24	28	2.42*	.12

n = 28 for each group.
* Yates correction.

TABLE 4. Recent memory items (number correct)

Item	Concussed	Nonconcussed	χ^2	p
9. Ground?	19	28	8.47*	<.004
10. Quarter?	8	28	31.11	<.001
11. Five quarter?	7	24	30.88	<.001
12. Last goal?	13	23	11.79	<.001
13. Player?	9	28	28.76	<.001
14. Win?	13	28	20.49	<.001

n = 28 for each group.
* Yates correction.

Wong, M. Standardized Baseline Assessment of Sports Concussion. Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine, 2005, 15(17), 104-109.

SCAT 3

- SAC-Sideline assessment of Concussion
 - Foundation of the SCAT 3 cognitive testing.
 - One point deficit from athletes baseline SAC score
 - Sensitivity-80-94%; Specificity-76-91%
 - "Brief cognitive screening tests such as the SAC and SCAT2 are not substitutes for more comprehensive neuropsychological assessment."

Wong, M. Standardized Baseline Assessment of Sports Concussion. Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine, 2005, 15(17), 104-109.
Gonzalez, L. et al. Effects of Concussion on Balance in the 2-Week Post-Concussion. J. Sports Med. 2012; 17:200-208.
Wong, M. and J. Collins. Practical Approach to Concussion for Athletes. Concussion Assessment and Management, 2010, 10(1), 200-205, 2010.

SCAT 3-NEW

TABLE 2

Descriptive Statistics and Concussed Versus Control Group Differences for SCAT3 Components^a

	Concussed (n = 166)	Control (n = 164)	t Value	P Value	d Value
Symptoms severity					
Baseline	8.08 ± 10.78	5.90 ± 7.40	0.62	.536	0.07
24 hours	24.91 ± 24.25	4.00 ± 5.06	15.88	<.001	1.62
Day 8	7.44 ± 14.32	3.21 ± 5.14	3.62	.003	0.39
Day 15	3.15 ± 5.85	2.48 ± 4.22	1.07	.284	0.12
Day 45	1.87 ± 4.18	2.97 ± 5.38	-1.86	.062	-0.23
SAC					
Baseline	26.44 ± 2.69	27.06 ± 1.81	-0.97	.328	-0.11
24 hours	25.54 ± 2.68	26.38 ± 1.90	-3.27	.005	-0.36
Day 8	27.14 ± 1.96	27.58 ± 1.87	-1.15	.252	-0.13
Day 15	26.75 ± 1.96	26.95 ± 1.91	-0.95	.340	-0.11
Day 45	26.96 ± 1.95	27.03 ± 1.80	-0.33	.746	-0.04
mBESS					
Baseline	3.37 ± 2.34	3.06 ± 2.68	1.45	.149	0.12
24 hours	4.16 ± 2.86	2.90 ± 2.54	4.54	<.001	0.46
Day 8	3.25 ± 2.74	2.50 ± 2.53	2.96	.011	0.33
Day 15	2.78 ± 2.35	2.55 ± 2.41	0.75	.453	0.09
Day 45	3.10 ± 2.55	2.73 ± 2.82	0.70	.480	0.14
mBSS					
Baseline	12.94 ± 4.32	12.70 ± 5.26	1.03	.305	0.17
24 hours	13.85 ± 5.45	11.28 ± 4.45	4.08	.004	0.81
Day 8	11.08 ± 5.02	10.89 ± 4.43	2.91	.011	0.54
Day 15	10.78 ± 4.87	10.87 ± 4.48	0.78	.435	0.00
Day 45	11.94 ± 4.63	10.62 ± 5.15	1.10	.268	0.09

^aValues are reported as mean ± SD unless otherwise indicated. Bolded values indicate statistically significant difference between groups after adjusting for multiple comparisons ($P < .05$); a value range from 1.1 to 1.96 for the concussed group and 1.97 to 1.64 for the control group. mBESS, Full Balance Error Scoring System (Grim and Baum surface trials); mBESS, modified Balance Error Scoring System; SAC, Standardized Assessment of Concussion; SCAT3, Sport Concussion Assessment Test 3.

Fig. 2. A 4 × 4 grid of horizontal lines.

NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING

► InPact

- There are five InPACT Test domains
- Composite 1: Verbal Memory Composite
 - This score is comprised of the average of the following scores:
 - Total memory percent correct
 - Symbol match (total correct hidden symbols)
 - Three letters (total percent of total letters correct)
 - A higher score indicates better performance on the Verbal Memory Composite.
- Composite 2: Visual Memory Composite
 - This score is comprised of the average of the following score
 - Design memory (total percent correct score)
 - X's and O's (total correct memory score)
 - A higher score indicates better performance on the Visual Memory Composite.
- Composite 3: Processing Speed Composite
 - This score is comprised of the average of the following scores:
 - X's and O's (total correct (interference))
 - Three-letters (average counted correctly)
 - A higher score indicates better performance on the Processing Speed Composite.

Fig. 3. A 4 × 4 grid of horizontal lines.

NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING

- Composite 4: Reaction Time Composite
 - This score is comprised of the average of the following scores:
 - X's and O's (average correct RT (interference))
 - Symbol match (average correct RT/3)
 - Color match (average correct RT)
 - A lower score indicates better performance on the Reaction Time Composite.
- Composite 5: Impulse Control Composite
 - This score is comprised of the average of the following scores:
 - X's and O's (total incorrect (interference))
 - Color match (total commissions)
 - A lower score indicates better performance on the Impulse Control composite.

Fig. 4. A 4 × 4 grid of horizontal lines.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM



Figure 1. Smooth pursuits.

Figure 2. Horizontal saccades.

Figure 3. Vertical saccades.



Figure 4. Convergence

Watts, Aron, et al. "A Brief Vestibulo-Ocular Motor Screening (VOMS) Assessment to Evaluate Concussion: Preliminary Findings." *Am J Sports Med* 42 (2014): 2476-2482.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM



Figure 5. Horizontal VOR.



Figure 7. VMS.

Watts, Aron, et al. "A Brief Vestibulo-Ocular Motor Screening (VOMS) Assessment to Evaluate Concussion: Preliminary Findings." *Am J Sports Med* 42 (2014): 2476-2482.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM-NEW

- ▶ Acute concussion has been shown to demonstrate abnormal oculomotor testing.
 - ▶ fMRI demonstrated increased areas of recruitment and activation.
- ▶ Subacute testing of 7 young adults 30d post injury (reported no symptoms, physician determined they were not concussed):
 - ▶ Horizontal video goggle saccades and pursuits were delayed in reaction time.
 - ▶ Improved compared to acute phase injury.
 - ▶ fMRI showed increased brain recruitment patterns, though improved compared to acute phase.
 - ▶ This has been shown to still be present at 6m post injury.

Johnson, B., et al. "Following-up Evaluation of the Oculomotor Performance With fMRI in The Subacute Phase of Concussion." *Neurology* 2015, 85:1105-1110.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM-NEW

- ▶ Adolescents tested <1 wk post concussion.
- ▶ Sxs rated on 10pt Likert scale sxs after each VOMS test completed.
- ▶ ImPACT testing revealed statistical significance for prolonged recovery of 30-90d.
 - ▶ For Visual Motor Speed (score change -9.1)greatest predictor. (OR 0.86 [0.79-0.94] p0.001)
 - ▶ and Reaction Time (score change 0.13s) (OR 3.73 [1.09-4.76] p0.029).
 - ▶ Reaction time greatest predictor of all fields tested.

Witke, A., et al. Using Acute Performance on a Comprehensive Neurocognitive, Vestibular and Oculomotor Assessment Battery to Predict Recovery Duration After Sport-Related Concussions. *PLoS ONE* 2016; 11(2): e0147819.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM-NEW

TABLE 2
Results of Univariate Multinomial Regression for Neurocognitive Scores as Predictive of Postconcussion Recovery of 15-29 and 30-90 Days Relative to <14 Days^a

Recovery, d	Neurocognitive Predictor	B	SE	P Value	Odds Ratio	95% CI
30-90	Verbal memory	-.005	0.022	.013	0.85	0.81-0.99
	Visual memory	-.099	0.028	.001	0.91	0.86-0.97
	Visual motor speed	-.147	0.046	.001	0.86	0.79-0.94
	Reaction time ^b	1.317	0.418	.002	3.73	1.64-8.47
15-29	Verbal memory	-.017	0.021	.40	0.88	0.84-1.02
	Visual memory	-.032	0.024	.17	0.97	0.90-1.01
	Visual motor speed	-.09	0.037	.015	0.91	0.85-0.98
	Reaction time ^b	.623	0.376	.029	2.28	1.09-4.78

^aMultivariate model includes visual memory and visual motor speed (chi-square = 22.68, df = 4, P < .001, pseudo-R² = 0.32).
^bStandardized as Z score to distribution, with mean = 0, SD = 1.

Witke, A., et al. Using Acute Performance on a Comprehensive Neurocognitive, Vestibular and Oculomotor Assessment Battery to Predict Recovery Duration After Sport-Related Concussions. *PLoS ONE* 2016; 11(2): e0147819.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM-NEW

- ▶ Adolescents tested <1 wk post concussion.
- ▶ Sxs rated on 10pt Likert scale sxs after each VOMS test completed.
- ▶ VOMS
 - ▶ Positive VOMS testing showed predictability of 30-90d recovery in all subcategories.
 - ▶ Smooth pursuit (OR 1.5 [1.19-1.90] p<0.001).
 - ▶ Horizontal saccade (OR 1.5 [1.19-1.88] p0.001).
 - ▶ Vertical saccade (OR 1.43 [1.16-1.75] p0.001).
 - ▶ These are the 3 I find to be the most reliable in my practice.

Witke, A., et al. Using Acute Performance on a Comprehensive Neurocognitive, Vestibular and Oculomotor Assessment Battery to Predict Recovery Duration After Sport-Related Concussions. *PLoS ONE* 2016; 11(2): e0147819.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM-NEW

TABLE 3

Results of Multinomial Regression for VOMS Scores as Predictive of Postconcussion Recovery of 15-29 and 30-90 Days Relative to <14 Days^a

Recovery, d	VOMS Predictor	β	SE	P Value	Odds Ratio	95% CI
30-90	Smooth pursuit	.405	0.565	<.001	1.50	1.19-1.90
	Horizontal saccade	.404	0.117	.001	1.50	1.19-1.88
	Vertical saccade	.366	0.108	.001	1.43	1.16-1.75
	Convergence distance	.192	0.088	.029	0.12	1.02-1.44
	Horizontal VOR	.271	0.086	.002	1.31	1.11-1.55
	Vertical VOR	.253	0.079	.001	1.29	1.10-1.51
	VMS	.210	0.093	.001	1.23	1.04-1.40
15-29	Smooth pursuit	.225	0.107	.036	1.25	1.02-1.55
	Horizontal saccade	.267	0.108	.013	1.31	1.06-1.62
	Vertical saccade	.203	0.095	.035	1.22	1.01-1.47
	Convergence distance	.016	0.090	.86	1.02	0.85-1.21
	Horizontal VOR	.142	0.092	.08	1.15	0.98-1.35
	Vertical VOR	.131	0.075	.08	1.14	0.98-1.32
	VMS	.102	0.058	.08	1.11	0.99-1.24

^aMultivariate model includes vertical saccade (chi-square = 17.53, $df = 2$, $P < .001$, pseudo- $r^2 = 0.291$). VMS, visual motion sensitivity; VOMS, Vestibulo/Ocular Motor Screening; VOR, vestibular ocular reflex.

Belkin, A., et al. Using Acute Performance as a Comprehensive Neurocognitive, Vestibular and Oculomotor Assessment Battery to Predict Recovery From Sport-Related Concussion. *PLoS ONE*, 2016.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM-NEW

- ▶ Case control study N=270.
 - ▶ Measured Near point convergence
 - ▶ Point at which double vision occurs or exophoria
 - ▶ Point at which eye deviates outward to midline.
 - ▶ >6cm abnormal, from bridge of nose.
 - ▶ NL in adolescents <6cm.
 - ▶ Those with increased convergence were more likely to take longer to recover from concussion.
 - ▶ OR 12.3 [6.6-23.0] p<0.001.

Belkin, A., et al. Convergence Insufficiency Identifies Athletes at Risk of Prolonged Recovery From Sport-Related Concussion. *AJPM*, 2016, 1-6.

VOMS: VESTIBULO-OCCULAR MOTOR SYSTEM-NEW

- ▶ Sensitivity 84.2%
- ▶ Specificity 70.0%
- ▶ PPV 62.5%
- ▶ NPV 88.1%

TABLE 2
Outcome Measures^a

	Normal NPC (n = 134)	CI (n = 136)	P Value
Recovery, d, mean ± SD	19.2 ± 14.7	61.8 ± 53.9	<.001
NPC at initial office visit, cm, mean ± SD	4.1 ± 1.3	12.8 ± 4.7	<.001
Prolonged recovery (>28 days), n (%)	16 (11.9)	85 (62.5)	<.001

^aCI, convergence insufficiency; NPC, near point of convergence.

Belkin, A., et al. Convergence Insufficiency Identifies Athletes at Risk of Prolonged Recovery From Sport-Related Concussion. *AJPM*, 2016, 1-6.

KING-DEVIK TEST

- ▶ K-D test is performed by:
 - ▶ Rapidly reading numbers with variable spacing on three test cards.
 - ▶ It is scored by adding the total time required in seconds.
- ▶ The test usually takes 1 to 2 minutes.
- ▶ Rapid number naming requires saccades, attention, and language, as well as other areas involved in reading.
- ▶ K-D thereby evaluates functioning of the brainstem, cerebellum, and cerebral cortex.

www.kingdevik.com

Wolfe, T. et al. "The King-Devik Test: The Role of Speed in the Assessment of Concussion." *Brain Injury* 2010;24:1001-1010.

KING-DEVIK TEST

- ▶ Baseline test time
- ▶ Timed after concussion
 - ▶ If slower, may have a concussion
 - ▶ If faster, that's the new baseline and may not have a concussion.
- ▶ NL-Around 50sec to complete in College age.
- ▶ Average increase of 5-7sec above baseline after concussed.
- ▶ Sensitivity as high as 86%; Specificity as high as 90%
 - ▶ I could only find this information from a study funded by KD, not in a reputable journal.

www.kingdevik.com

Wolfe, T. et al. "The King-Devik Test: The Role of Speed in the Assessment of Concussion." *Brain Injury* 2010;24:1001-1010.

KING-DEVIK TEST

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BUFFALO PROTOCOL

- ▶ Used in athletes with >6weeks of symptoms
- ▶ Balke protocol
 - ▶ 3.3mph@ 0% grade warmup—>Increase 2% grade at min 2—>1% grade increase thereafter.
- ▶ If symptoms of concussion occur before Max_{HR} then the athlete is not ready to go back.
- ▶ No Sensitivity/Specificity date
- ▶ Inter-rater and intra-rater reliability in 90%'s.

2017 CONSENSUS UPDATE

- ▶ Rest:
 - ▶ Currently insufficient evidence to prescribe complete rest after 48h of injury.
 - ▶ Encouraged to stay below symptom threshold.
 - ▶ Retrospective study of >3000 kids reporting to ER and retrospective analysis 28d later.
 - ▶ Question posed was: < or > 7d at which activity was started.
 - ▶ RR reduction of up to 0.77 with light activity to full exercise after concussion v. absolute rest CI(0.63-0.86).
 - ▶ Walking, swimming, cycling.
 - ▶ Running, skating.
 - ▶ Passing drills.

McCrory P, et al. [Full-contact drills](#)—the 7th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *Br J Sport Med*. 2017; 41:1-10.
Shall A, et al. [Association Between Early Participation in Physical Activity Following Acute Concussion and Persistent Postconcussive Symptoms in Children and Adolescents](#). *JAMA*. 2017; 317:10-18.
▶ Encouraging NL cerebral blood flow is proposed mechanism

2017 CONSENSUS UPDATE

- ▶ Helmet and video impact sensors/analysis:
 - ▶ While this is quite cool in theory, currently we do not know how to use the data.
 - ▶ No data for non-contact sports limits usefulness.
 - ▶ May not reflect brain forces, as sensors are on helmet and skin?

McCrory P, et al. [Consensus statement on concussion in sport—the 7th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016](#). *Br J Sport Med*. 2017; 41:1-10.

2017 CONSENSUS UPDATE

- SCAT 5
 - Replaces older SCAT3 testing.
 - Baseline testing MAY be useful.
 - Should be used on sideline as a screening tool.
 - Effective for the first 5d following concussion
 - Usefulness wanes after 5d.
 - System checklist is useful beyond 5d.

McCrory, P., et al. Consensus statement on concussion in sport—the 5th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *Br J Sport Med*. 2017; 0: 1-10

2017 CONSENSUS UPDATE

- Return To Learning:

Table 2 Graduated return-to-school strategy

Stage	Aim	Activity	Goal of each step
1	Daily activities at home that do not give the child symptoms	Typical activities of the child during the day as long as they do not increase symptoms (eg, reading, watching, screen time). Start with 5-15 min at a time and gradually build up	Gradual return to typical activities
2	School activities	Homework, reading or other cognitive activities outside of the classroom	Increase tolerance to cognitive work
3	Return to school part-time	Gradual introduction of schoolwork. May need to start with a partial school day or with increased breaks during the day	Increase academic activities
4	Return to school full time	Gradually progress school activities until a full day can be tolerated	Return to full academic activities and catch up on missed work

McCrory, P., et al. Consensus statement on concussion in sport—the 5th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *Br J Sport Med*. 2017; 0: 1-10

2017 CONSENSUS UPDATE

- “It is recommended that all athletes should have a clinical neurological assessment (including evaluation of mental status/ cognition, oculomotor function, gross sensorimotor, coordination, gait, vestibular function and balance) as part of their overall management.”
 - “This will normally be performed by the treating physician, often in conjunction with computerized NP screening tools.”
 - Should not be used as sole determinant of concussion.

McCrory, P., et al. Consensus statement on concussion in sport—the 5th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *Br J Sport Med*. 2017; 0: 1-10

2017 CONSENSUS UPDATE

- ▶ Biomarkers, genetic testing and research based neuroimaging remain important research tools.
- ▶ Not currently ready for clinical use.
 - ▶ Tau linked to axonal damage in traumatic brain injury.
 - ▶ Tau higher in all athletes, regardless of trauma.
 - ▶ Tau may be higher in those with longer concussions.

McCrory, P. et al. Consensus statement on concussion in sport—the 5th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *Br J Sport Med*. 2017; 0: 1-10

LONG TERM SEQUELAE

- ▶ Case descriptions of boxers with deficits in cognitive abilities date back to 1920's.
- ▶ NFL-CTE
 - ▶ Some retired athletes have Tau deposition in cortical brain matter.
- ▶ Survey of >3700 retired college contact sport participants aged 40-70.
 - ▶ No hx of concussion
 - ▶ suspected "sub-threshold blows"
 - ▶ No difference in mental illness, sleep disorders, perceived cognitive decline.
 - ▶ Was greater alcohol use.

Harley, CT, et al. A systematic Review of Potential Long Term Effects of Sports Related Concussion. *Br J Sports Med*. 2017; 0: 1-10.

LONG TERM SEQUELAE

- ▶ Neuroimaging:
 - ▶ 14 studies using Diffusion Tensor Imaging, PET, Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy
 - ▶ Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) is an MRI-based neuroimaging technique which makes it possible to estimate the location, orientation, and anisotropy of the brain's white matter tracts.
 - ▶ Magnetic Resonance spectroscopy is a noninvasive diagnostic test for measuring biochemical changes in the brain. It compares the chemical composition of normal brain tissue with abnormal tumor tissue.

Harley, CT, et al. A systematic Review of Potential Long Term Effects of Sports Related Concussion. *Br J Sports Med*. 2017; 0: 1-10.

LONG TERM SEQUELAE

- Neuroimaging:
 - 14 studies using Diffusion Tensor Imaging, PET, Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy
 - All reported long term changes in brains of Football and soccer athletes.
 - Subject to significant bias with study design.
- MRI study of 72 former NFL athletes with a history of >1 concussion showed structural differences that were associated with deficits in memory, word pronunciation test.
- DTI study of 37 soccer athletes showed no change in structure or testing performance in amateur soccer athletes. Unless, significant heading of ball (>885/y).

Marley, GT, et al. A systematic Review of Potential Long Term Effects of Sports Related Concussion. Br J Sports Med. 2017; 0: 1-10.

LONG TERM SEQUELAE

- Neuroimaging:
 - MRS study of 11 pro soccer athletes found chemical differences in brains, but no cognitive changes.
 - PET study of 5 NFL athletes with mood/cognitive problems showed increased Tau and Amyloid activity compared to controls.

Marley, GT, et al. A systematic Review of Potential Long Term Effects of Sports Related Concussion. Br J Sports Med. 2017; 0: 1-10.

LONG TERM SEQUELAE

- Neurocognitive and mental health:
 - Survey of >2500 NFL athletes, 758 older than 50:
 - 1.3% Doctor diagnosed dementia
 - 2.9% reported doctor diagnosed cognitive impairment
 - If wives completed survey:
 - 12-35% reported cognitive impairments in spouses.
 - Death certificate study of 334 NFL athletes
 - All cause mortality lower than general population.
 - Suicide and mental illness listed less than general population.
 - Nervous system disorders higher, but not statistical significant.

Marley, GT, et al. A systematic Review of Potential Long Term Effects of Sports Related Concussion. Br J Sports Med. 2017; 0: 1-10.

LONG TERM SEQUELAE

- **Neurocognitive and mental health:**
 - Autopsy studies:
 - 85 control matched athletes
 - 80% had tau deposition compared to 0% of controls.
- **Conclusions on long term sequelae:**
 - Some professional contact sports athletes are at increased risk of
 - Cognitive deficits
 - Mental health illness
 - No increased risk of suicide
 - There is a link to repeat concussions: most pronounced in NFL athletes, boxers with a greater number of bouts and soccer athletes who head the ball a lot.
 - No association with High School athletes.
 - Study of long term sequelae are of limited quality and subject to significant bias.
