Concussion in Schools: Know your role

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS, COACHES, TEACHERS AND OTHER SUPERVISORS



School administrators, educators, school staff, students, parents/guardians, and school volunteers all have important roles to play when it comes to concussion in schools. Read on to learn more about the role of athletic directors, coaches, teachers, and other supervisors.

Your role to Create Awareness

- Ensure you can access the school's concussion protocol
- Know Red Flag and other signs and symptoms of concussion
- Know your school's Emergency Action Plan and Red Flag Procedure
- Promote and monitor physical activity safety initiatives for staff and students
- Understand the impact a concussion has on a student's ability to function in the school setting
- Understand the dangers if a student returns to physical activity before they are ready
- Know and understand the Return to School (RTS) and Return to Physical Activity (RTPA) Plan stages.
- Provide in-service to students/athletes
 - Where appropriate, provide students with safety information (e.g., concussion prevention and awareness) specific to the activity, possible risks of the activity and procedures and rules for safe play
 - Educate students on their responsibilities for their own safety and the safety of others around them









Your role to **Identify and Respond**

- Know the protocol for responding to the following concussion scenarios: Red Flag, signs and/ or symptoms present, and no signs or symptoms present
- Respond immediately to a student's injury, following the school's protocol
- Communicate information about the injury to the principal/designate and the student's parents/guardians
- Complete any forms required by your school's policy

Your role to **Manage and Support**

- Work with the student's Collaborative Team to create the student's RTS and RTPA Plan
- Obtain documented Medical Clearance before moving the student to Stage 5 of the RTPA Plan

Additional Resources

Return-to-School Strategy

http://horizon.parachutecanada.org/en/article/parachutes-return-to-learn-protocol

Parachute Concussion Resources

http://www.parachutecanada.org/concussion

Ophea's Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines - Concussions

http://safety.ophea.net/concussions