



Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport

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July 2017

Funding provided by:
Public Health Agency of Canada

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Suggested citation:

Parachute. (2017). *Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport*. Toronto: Parachute.

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Guideline Development Process

Evidence

This guideline was developed using the results of a systematic evidence search and consensus process conducted external to the guideline's development.

The most current high quality scientific evidence addressing concussion in sport is reviewed roughly every 4 years by the Scientific Committee and Expert Panel of the International Consensus Conference on Concussion in Sport. The consensus process includes:

- Drafting, feedback, and revision of systematic review questions by the Scientific Committee and Expert Panel
- Systematic reviews
- Submission and review of scientific abstracts to supplement the systematic reviews with the latest evidence
- Consensus meeting with: public plenary lectures to address the review questions; closed Expert Panel meeting; and, updating of tools (CRT, SCAT, Child SCAT)

Additional details on the consensus process and methodology are available here: <http://bjsm.bmj.com/content/51/11/873>. The results of this process are subsequently published in the form of a consensus statement, systematic review articles, and tools in the *British Journal of Sports Medicine*.

The 5th International Consensus Conference on Concussion in Sport was held October 27-28, 2016 in Berlin, Germany. This iteration of the consensus process included 12 systematic review questions. A new *International Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport*, 12 systematic reviews, and updated tools (CRT5, SCAT5, Child SCAT5) were published in April 2017. Three of the lead authors of the Consensus Statement – Dr. Carolyn Emery, Dr. Kathryn Schneider, and Dr. Charles Tator – are members of the Expert Committee that developed this guideline.

The full scope of evidence included in the Consensus Statement and systematic reviews is broader than the scope of this guideline. Selection of the recommendation areas and evidence to include in this guideline was determined by the Expert Committee and informed by Russell et al.⁵'s framework for youth sport concussion in Canada.

Stakeholder Consultation

A broad group of stakeholders was consulted throughout the guideline development process to ensure the views of end users were considered. The following sectors and professions were included:

⁵Russell K. et al. (2017). Legislation for youth sport concussion in Canada: review, conceptual framework and recommendation. *Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences*, 44(3), 225-234.

- Healthcare professionals including: Neurosurgery, Pediatrics, Sports Medicine, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy
- Health and sport injury researchers
- National Sport Organization representatives
- National Multisport Service Organization representatives including coaching
- Government
- Education

An initial draft of guideline recommendations based on evidence and practice-based expertise was developed by the Expert Committee. A national stakeholder event was hosted by Parachute in May 2017, where the recommendations were presented to health, sport, and government representatives for open discussion. Feedback received was incorporated into subsequent revisions of the document, which underwent ongoing review by the Expert Committee and Parachute Project Team.

External review by health, sport, government, and education representatives was the final step for completion of the document.

Updates to this Guideline

At the time of its publication, this guideline reflects the most current high quality evidence on concussion in sport. New scientific evidence and its impact on the areas of recommendation in this guideline will have to be considered as it emerges.

The next iteration of the consensus conference is expected to occur before December 31, 2020.