

Head Injury Care Instruction Sheet

This athlete has sustained a head injury. This is a medical follow-up sheet to use to ensure the health and safety of this athlete. Quite often signs of a head injury do not appear immediately after trauma. The purpose of this sheet is to alert you and your family of the symptoms of significant head injuries that may occur several hours after the initial head injury.

Indiana State Law: Athletes suspected of having a head injury may not return to play until - (1) is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and head injuries; and (2) receives a written clearance to return to play from the health care provider who evaluated the student athlete.

Please follow the suggestions listed below:

- Physical and brain rest are highly encouraged. (see reverse side for ideas regarding brain rest)
- <u>Do not allow the athlete to take aspirin or ibuprofen products until 48 hours after the injury as these products</u> thin the blood and may mask symptoms of a more severe injury! Tylenol is fine.

Contact the athlete's primary care physician or take the athlete to the nearest hospital emergency department **IMMEDIATELY** if any of the following symptoms persist or worsen:

- 1. Difficulty in waking the athlete
- 2. Dizziness or disorientation
- 3. Nausea or vomiting
- 4. Severe headache, particularly at a specific location, which is continuing, increasing or changing in pattern
- 5. Blurred vision
- 6. Pupils which are dilated, unequal in size, or non-reactive to light
- 7. Dizziness, poor balance or unsteadiness

- 8. Weakness or numbness in either arm or leg
- 9. Confusion such as difficulty in remembering recent events or meaningful facts
- 10. Convulsion
- 11. Unusual or bizarre behavior
- 12. Persistent ringing in the ears
- 13. Any discharge from the ears or nose
- 14. Slurring of speech
- 15. Mental confusion or strangeness

The appearance of any of the above symptoms indicates that this athlete can have a significant head injury that requires immediate medical attention

ImPACT[™] is a user-friendly computer-based testing program specifically designed for the management of sports-related concussion that records an athlete's health history, current symptoms and neuropsychological data. This test may be performed at the initial visit or at a later visit. Test administration is done at the discretion of the treating physician.

St Vincent Sports Performance physicians can use the ImPACT[™] test to compare the post-concussion ImPACT[™] results against normative data, which provides objective information to assist in developing a treatment plan and to ensure the athlete's safety.

For more information about concussions, visit www.acaindiana.com

WALK-IN HOURS 8:00am-10:00am M-F

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