



TBI Tips



Creating a Concussion Management Team

One very important feature that can contribute to student success is the concussion management team. A concussion management team can create a plan to support students who have concussions in academics, sports and socially. Each organization will have varying needs and resources to establish these teams. The Center for Brain Injury Research and Training is able to provide schools with technical assistance to establish effective, efficient teams to support these students.

Communication between medical and school professionals is very important, and allows for coordinated support and monitoring of progress. To be most effective it is helpful to have clear communication between one person in the medical setting and one person in the school setting. That way the school point person is able to interface effectively with the concussion management team.

Having a clear protocol for academic re-entry must include ongoing monitoring that takes into account the student's level of need and where he/she is in the return to learn progression. In step 1 following a brain injury a student needs full cognitive and physical rest. Step 2 will include light cognitive activities. Step 3 allows students to attend partial days at school with school-based accommodations. In step 4, the student returns to full school days with accommodations in place. In step 5, the student returns to full school days with no accommodations in place (the return to physical activity protocol can begin at this time).

Not all students will follow these steps in the same period of time, and depending on the severity of the injury may need accommodations for varying periods as well. It is important to recognize that students recover at different paces and may not always recover to the same level of functioning they had before the injury. They may even show variability in function from day to day or from hour to hour.

Guide to Creating a Concussion Management Team:

A Concussion Management Team can create and implement a concussion management plan to support an athlete with a concussion. Each organization will have different needs and different resources. Click [here](#) to read more.