



May 1st, 2017

Re: RUGBY MANITOBA CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

In the event that a Rugby Manitoba player is suspected to have sustained a concussion or experiences concussion-like symptoms, the following procedures must be followed:

- 1.) When a player is suspected of sustaining a serious head or spine injury during a rugby game or practice, an ambulance should be called immediately to transfer the patient to Children's Hospital Emergency Department or the nearest emergency room for further evaluation. If the player is diagnosed with a concussion, the patient can be referred to the Pan Am Concussion Program for follow-up care.
- 2.) If a player develops symptoms of a concussion during a rugby game or practice and the symptoms are deemed to be non-life threatening, the player should be evaluated immediately at the Children's Hospital Emergency Department or the nearest emergency room. If the player is diagnosed with a concussion, the patient can be referred to the Pan Am Concussion Program for follow-up care.
- 3.) If a player develops delayed concussion symptoms (several hours to several days later), the player should be seen by their pediatrician, family doctor or an emergency department doctor. If the player is diagnosed with a concussion, the patient can be referred to the Pan Am Concussion Program for follow-up care.

In the event that a Rugby Manitoba player experiences a suspected concussion, and a trained athletic therapist or medical doctor (M.D.) is present, the initial sideline concussion evaluation should be carried out using the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool-5 (SCAT5) or the Child Sport Concussion Assessment Tool-5 (Child SCAT5) to document initial neurological status. Regardless of SCAT5/Child SCAT5 testing results, all children and adolescents with a suspected concussion must be evaluated by a medical doctor (M.D.) and receive written medical clearance by a medical doctor (M.D.) prior to returning to contact practices and competitive rugby game play.

If you have any other concerns or questions, please feel free to visit us at www.rugbymanitoba.com or www.panamclinic.org. Further contact information and instructions about how pediatricians, family doctors, and emergency room doctors can refer patients to the Pan Am Concussion Program is available on the Pan Am Clinic website.