pan am CONCUSSION PROGRAM

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority / Office régional de la santé de Winnipeg
Caring for Health / À l'écoute de notre santé

November 4th, 2016

Re: WINNIPEG MINOR HOCKEY CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

In the event that a Winnipeg Minor Hockey 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 hockey game or practice, an ambulance should be called immediately to transfer the patient to Children's Hospital Emergency Department 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 hockey 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 room 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 Winnipeg Minor Hockey 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 3 (SCAT3) to document initial neurological status. Regardless of SCAT3 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 competitive hockey game play.

If you have any other concerns or questions, please feel free to visit us at 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 website.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Ellis MD FRCSC, Medical Director, Pan Am Concussion Program