

Concussion Updates for the Primary Care Office

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## Objectives

- Review efficient and evidence-based approach to sports concussion in the primary care setting
- Update examination skills when evaluating sports concussion in the primary care setting
- Understand medico-legal issues surrounding concussions



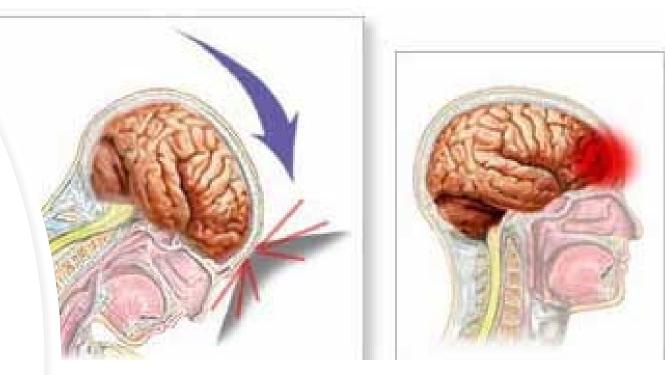
### **Disclosures**

• I, Anne Marie Zeller, have no financial disclosures



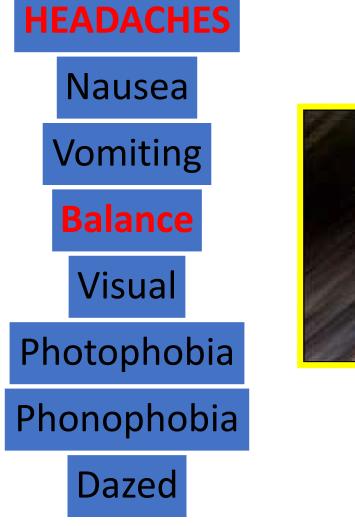
### Definition

- Blow to the head causing neurological impairment
- No structural damage: can't see on MRI / CT
- Changes at the chemical level
- Long list of symptoms / signs
- Typically reversible, spontaneous resolution





- Physical
- Cognitive
- Emotional
- Sleep







- Physical
- <u>Cognitive</u>
- Emotional
- Sleep





- Physical
- Cognitive
- <u>Emotional</u>
- Sleep

Irritability

Sadness

## Increased Emotionality

### Nervousness



- Physical
- Cognitive
- Emotional
- <u>Sleep</u>

Drowsiness

Sleeping more

Sleeping less

## Difficulty falling asleep

## Dispelling Myths & – Improving Diagnosis

- Myth: must have loss of consciousness (LOC) to be concussed
  - LOC occurs in only **10%** of concussions
- Myth: wake someone up for Q2 hour neuro checks!
  - WRONG! Sleep is the best medicine for concussion
  - Check in on someone once overnight
- Myth: "You have a mild concussion"
  - We no longer grade concussions
  - AVOID qualifying severity
  - Can't predict recovery
  - Care must be individualized
  - Symptoms guide Management





## Evaluation





### Assessment

- History & subjective symptom checklist
- Neurologic exam
- Mental status exam (SCAT 5)
- Balance testing (BESS)
- Visual Ocular Motor testing (VOMS)
- Neuropsych testing





## History

- Mechanism of injury
- Amnesia present?
- Cervical spine concerns?
- Neurologic symptoms numbness, tingling, weakness?
- Vomiting?
- Prior medical history relevant?
  - Prior concussions, bleeding disorders, anxiety, depression, migraine / headaches, learning disability, somatic manifestations of stress and anxiety, sleep disorders, ADD/ADHD
- Post Concussion Scale (PCS)
  - Subjective report rating 21 common symptoms
  - Athlete, Child, Parent rating system



## **Physical Exam**

Eyes: pupils, fundoscopic, EOM tracking

ENT: dental, palate rise, TMs, sense of smell, hemotympanum, battle's sign

Neck: ROM, tenderness, Spurling's maneuver

Extremities: ROM, tenderness, strength

Neuro: CN, reflexes, sensation, rapid movements, coordination (finger to nose)

Gait, tandom gait



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- Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT5)
  - SCAT 5 13yo and above
  - Child SCAT 5 to 12yo
  - Good reliability within 48-72 hours after injury
- PCS Post Concussion Scale (See next slide)
- SAC Standardized Assessment of Concussion
  - Orientation
  - Concentration
  - Immediate Memory
  - Delayed recall
- BESS Balance Error Scoring System

#### **STEP 2: SYMPTOM EVALUATION**

The athlete should be given the symptom form and asked to read this instruction paragraph out loud then complete the symptom scale. For the baseline assessment, the athlete should rate his/her symptoms based on how he/she typically feels and for the post injury assessment the athlete should rate their symptoms at this point in time.

Please Check: 
Baseline 
Post-Injury

#### Please hand the form to the athlete

	none	m	ild	mod	erate	sev	ere
Headache	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
"Pressure in head"	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Neck Pain	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Nausea or vomiting	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dizziness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Blurred vision	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Balance problems	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sensitivity to light	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sensitivity to noise	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Feeling slowed down	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Feeling like "in a fog"	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
"Don't feel right"	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Difficulty concentrating	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Difficulty remembering	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

Fatigue or low energy	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Confusion	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Drowsiness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
More emotional	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Irritability	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sadness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Nervous or Anxious	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Trouble falling asleep (if applicable)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Total number of symptoms:		(	of 22				
Symptom severity score:		of	f 132				
Do your symptoms get worse with		Y N	I				
Do your symptoms get worse with		Y N	I				
If 100% is feeling perfectly normal percent of normal do you feel?							

If not 100%, why?

#### ORIENTATION

Immediate Memory Score								of 15
F	Dollar	Honey	Mirror	Saddle	Anchor			
Е	Jacket	Arrow	Pepper	Cotton	Movie			
D	Elbow	Apple	Carpet	Saddle	Bubble			
С	Baby	Monkey	Perfume	Sunset	Iron			
В	Candle	Paper	Sugar	Sandwich	Wagon			
А	Finger	Penny	Blanket	Lemon	Insect			
List		Alte	rnate 5 word	lists		Trial 1	Trial	2 Trial 3
							ore (	of 5)
Orien	ntation scor	e						of 5
What	time is it rig	ght now? (wi	thin 1 hour)			0		1
What	year is it?					0		1
What is the day of the week?								1
What	is the date	0		1				
what	month is it	0		1				

#### CONCENTRATION

#### **DIGITS BACKWARDS**

Please circle the Digit list chosen (A, B, C, D, E, F). Administer at the rate of one digit per second reading DOWN the selected column.

I am going to read a string of numbers and when I am done, you repeat them back to me in reverse order of how I read them to you. For example, if I say 7-1-9, you would say 9-1-7.

Concentra	Concentration Number Lists (circle one)							
List A	List B	List C						
4-9-3	5-2-6	1-4-2	Y	Ν	0			
6-2-9	4-1-5	6-5-8	Y	Ν	1			
3-8-1-4	1-7-9-5	6-8-3-1	Y	Ν	0			
3-2-7-9	4-9-6-8	3-4-8-1	Y	Ν	1			
6-2-9-7-1	4-8-5-2-7	4-9-1-5-3	Y	Ν	0			
1-5-2-8-6	6-1-8-4-3	6-8-2-5-1	Y	Ν	1			
7-1-8-4-6-2	8-3-1-9-6-4	3-7-6-5-1-9	Y	Ν	0			
5-3-9-1-4-8	7-2-4-8-5-6	9-2-6-5-1-4	Y	Ν	1			

#### MONTHS IN REVERSE ORDER

Now tell me the months of the year in reverse order. Start with the last month and go backward. So you'll say December, November. Go ahead.

Dec - Nov - Oct - Sept - Aug - Jul - Jun - May - Apr - Mar - Feb - Jan	0 1
Months Score	of 1
Concentration Total Score (Digits + Months)	of 5

### SAC TOTAL SCORE= 30

#### **STEP 5: DELAYED RECALL:**

The delayed recall should be performed after 5 minutes have elapsed since the end of the Immediate Recall section. Score 1 pt. for each correct response.

Do you remember that list of words I read a few times earlier? Tell me as many words from the list as you can remember in any order.

 Time Started

 Please record each word correctly recalled. Total score equals number of words recalled.

 Total number of words recalled accurately:
 of 5
 or
 of 10

#### **STEP 6: DECISION**

	Date & time of assessment:				
Domain					
Symptom number (of 22)					
Symptom severity score (of 132)					
Orientation (of 5)					
Immediate memory	of 15 of 30	of 15 of 30	of 15 of 30		
Concentration (of 5)					
Neuro exam	Normal Abnormal	Normal Abnormal	Normal Abnormal		
Balance errors (of 30)					
Delayed Recall	of 5 of 10	of 5 of 10	of 5 of 10		



## SAC Scoring

#### 25-29% have no reduced score immediately

• Even though symptoms present

Need  $\downarrow$  3 pt to represent significant change

- McCrea:  $\downarrow$  3.5 (33 injured athletes)
- McDaniel:  $\downarrow$  3.4 (21 injured athletes)
- Hecht: ↓ 2.1 (78 injured athletes)

Scores return to normal before symptoms resolve

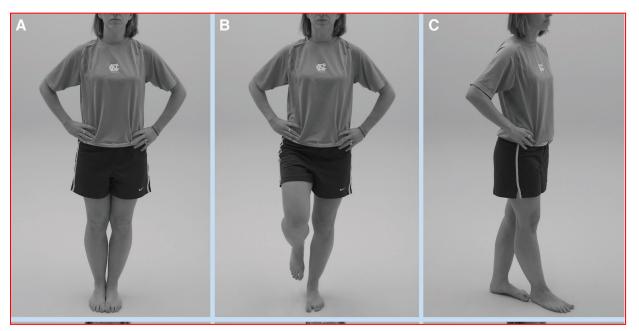
Repeat before RTP to establish baseline SAC

Daniel, 2002, Military Med; Barr + McCrea, 2000, J Int Neuropsych Soc; Hecht, 2003, AMSSM



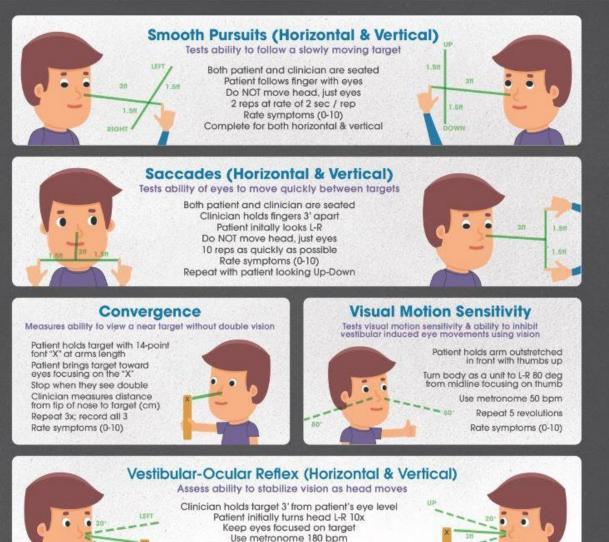
## BESS – modified

- Three positions on hard surface
  - Original BESS did same 3 positions on foam in addition to hard surface
- "Which foot would you prefer to kick a ball with?"
- 20 sec each position
- Eyes shut



Right foot is dominant

#### Vestibular/Ocular-Motor Screening (VOMS)



Wait 10 seconds Rate symptoms (0-10) Repeat with patient looking Up-Down

DOWN

### Vestibular-Ocular-Motor Screening

- Why do we do this testing?
  - Target specific therapies that can help recovery
  - Help health-care provide give appropriate school/work accommodations for patient/athlete

Vestibular/Ocular Motor Test:	Not Tested	Headache 0-10	Dizziness 0-10	Nausea 0-10	Fogginess 0-10	Comments
BASELINE SYMPTOMS:	N/A					
Smooth Pursuits						
Saccades – Horizontal						
Saccades – Vertical						
Convergence (Near Point)						(Near Point in cm): Measure 1: Measure 2: Measure 3:
VOR – Horizontal						
VOR – Vertical						
Visual Motion Sensitivity Test						



## Imaging

- Evaluation of cervical spine
  - Whiplash type injuries
  - AP, lateral, flexion, extension views (odontoid view?)
  - Rule out fracture, ligamentous instability
- CT or not to CT?
  - R/O intracranial bleed, skull fracture
  - Used in acute setting only
  - Concern for radiation exposure
  - RARELY abnormal in sport concussions
  - Adults co-morbid conditions/anticoagulation
- MRI if prolonged symptoms, congenital abn



## Neuropsychologic Testing

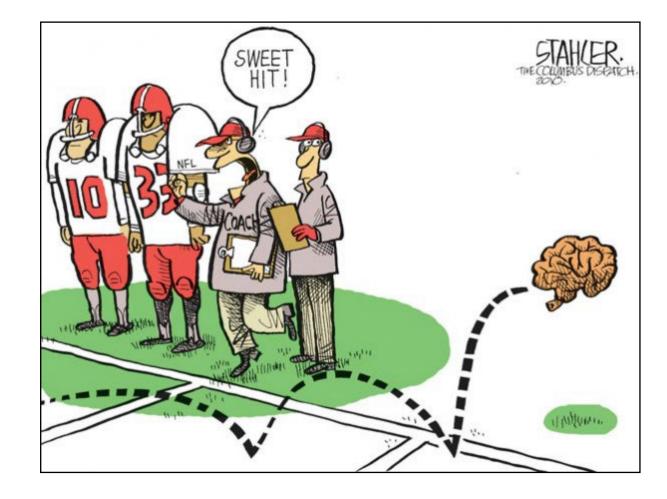
Product	Source	Administration Time	Metrics
ANAM Sports Medicine Battery (ASMB)	U.S. Department of Defense	20 min	Reaction time, variability, accuracy, throughput
CogSport (Concussion Sentinel)	CogState, Ltd Melbourne, Australia http://www.cogsport.com/	<18 min	Reaction time, variability, accuracy
HeadMinder	HeadMinder, Inc New York, New York http://www.headminder.com/	<25 min	Reaction time
ImPACT	ImPACT, Inc Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania http://www.impacttest.com/	<22 min	Reaction time, variability, accuracy

ANAM = Automated Neuropsychological Assessment Metrics.

Common computer-based neuropsychological tests for use in sports.



## Management





## **Acute Concussion: Dx & Mgmt**

- Tell them "YOU HAVE A CONCUSSION"
- Do NOT grade it or judge severity
- "The majority of children recover within 3 weeks"
- Adults may take longer if working or primary care giver
- Provide guidance First week
  - Based on severity of signs / symptoms (an art)
  - Cognitive restrictions\*
  - Limited use electronic use (computer, tablet, videogames)
  - Limit exertive exercise weight training, jogging, sit ups
  - NO driving
  - Sleep: when tired, avoid daytime naps



## Referral

- ENT Otolaryngology
  - Orbital / Nasal fx
- Dentistry
- Sports medicine physician
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physician
- Neurology / Neurosurgery
  - Immediate: Focal neurologic deficits
  - Prolonged headache unresponsive to medication
- Neuropsychological Rehabilitation
- Ophthalmology
  - Immediate: concern for retinal detachment, hyphema
  - Delayed: visual field defects, persistent blurry vision, floaters
- Psychiatry







## **Osteopathic Manipulation**

- Headache
- Somatic dysfunction of the spine
  - Cranial
  - Cervical
  - Thoracic
  - Lumbar
  - Ribs
- Upper extremity strain / spasm



## Initial Follow-up: 1-3 Weeks

- Repeat evaluation
- School restriction /work accommodations: gradual return
- Physical therapy
  - Cervical strains / sprains
  - Vestibular treatment
  - Balance training
  - Sub-exertion treadmill protocol
- Melatonin 3-5mg po 1 hour before bed
- Counseling immediately if history of mental health issues
- OMM
- Weekly to bi-weekly follow-up

#### Workload

- Provide modified versions of assignments, extended time
- Reduce overall amount of make-up work, class work and homework; eliminate all unnecessary make-up work
- Allow additional time to complete assignments
- Allow tutor/counselor/intervention specialist

#### Testing

- No testing until \_\_\_\_\_
- Allow additional time to complete tests
- Allow use of notes for tests
- No more than one test per day

#### Physical activity

- No physical exertion including athletics, gym or recess
- Walking in gym class only
- Begin return-to-play protocol as outlined on the Return to Play handout

#### Attendance

- No school for \_\_\_\_\_ school day(s)
- May attend school \_\_\_\_\_ days/week
- Partial days as tolerated
- Partial days as tolerated, advance to full days as symptoms decrease
- Full days as tolerated

#### Breaks

- Allow breaks during school day if symptoms are worsening (recommend resting 20 – 30 minutes)
- Allow student to go to nurse's office or other quiet area for rest, and may go home if symptoms do not subside
- Acetaminophen (Q4hr) or Ibuprofen (Q6hr w/food) may be given to treat headache

#### Visual stimuli

- Allow student to wear sunglasses/hat in school
- No screen time (e.g., computers, TV)
- Limited screen time (e.g., computers, TV) as tolerated
- Preprinted notes for class material or a note-taker

#### Audible stimuli

- Allow lunch in a quiet area with a friend
- Avoid music and/or workshop classes
- Allow student to wear earplugs in school
- Allow five-minute early dismissal to move between classrooms



# oturn ta

**DIDN'T FAIL** 

## Return to Learn

This patient has suffered a mild traumatic brain injury or concussion. The following employment accommodations may help to reduce post-concussion symptoms and any delay in recovery that can occur if a patient returns to work without needed accommodations. These restrictions must be considered as part of medical care and treatment for this diagnosis. Needed accommodations may vary by a given patient, the nature of the patient's concussion, and/or the nature of the patient's job. The employee and employer are encouraged to discuss and establish accommodations with the workplace until they are deemed no longer necessary by the patient's treatment providers.

#### Attendance

No work for \_\_\_\_\_ work day(s)

Partial work days as tolerated

- Partial days as tolerated, advance to full days as symptoms decrease
- Full days as tolerated

#### Breaks

- Allow breaks during work day if symptoms are worsening (recommend resting 20 30 minutes)
- Allow employee to go home if symptoms do not subside with breaks

#### Work Restrictions

- Light duty nonrisk work activity
- Up to moderate duty nonrisk work activity

#### **Environmental Restrictions**

- Avoid heights (ladders, scaffolding, etc.)
- Avoid heavy lifting
- Limit computer use
- Limit driving

Additional Restrictions/Accommodations

## Return to Work



## **Management: Return to Sport**

- MUST be symptom free
  - "Normal" PCS score < 12
  - HEADACHE free
  - "I feel 100%"
  - School and work full-time, no issues
- Neuropsychological testing back to baseline
  - Repeat computerized test if baseline available before advancing to contact
  - Refer to neuropsychology
    - Fail to improve from baseline
    - No computerized baseline available

**Return to Play** 

	Exercise step	Functional exercise at each step	Goal of each step
y	1. Symptom- limited activity	Daily activities that do not provoke symptoms.	Gradual reintroduc- tion of work/school activities.
	2. Light aerobic exercise	Walking or stationary cycling at slow to medium pace. No resistance training.	Increase heart rate.
	3. Sport-specific exercise	Running or skating drills. No head impact activities.	Add movement.
	4. Non-contact training drills	Harder training drills, e.g., passing drills. May start progressive resistance training.	Exercise, coor- dination, and increased thinking.
	5. Full contact practice	Following medical clear- ance, participate in normal training activities.	Restore confi- dence and assess functional skills by coaching staff.
JES   E	6. Return to play/sport	Normal game play.	

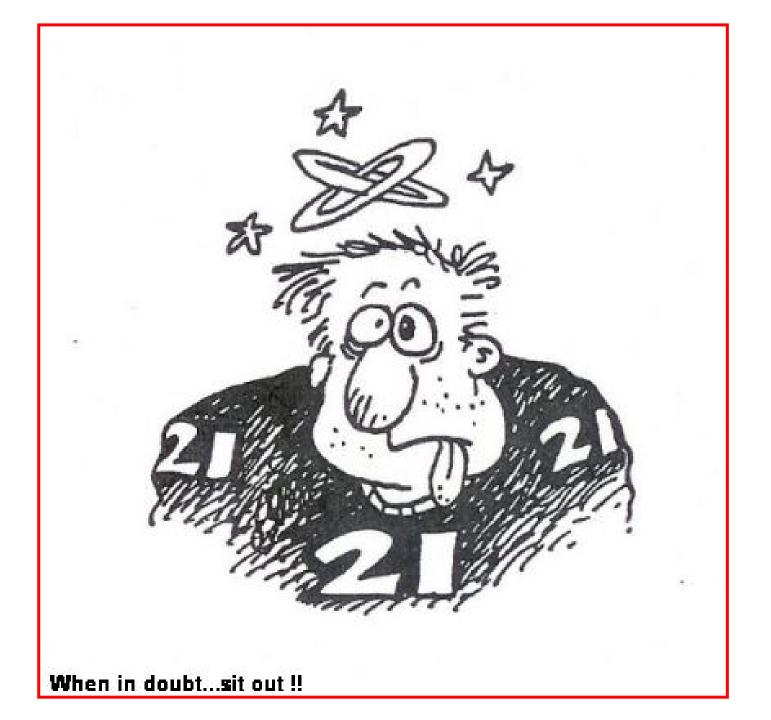
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#### **Graduated Return to Sport Strategy**

## **Complications of Concussion**

- Second impact syndrome
- Decreased threshold for further concussion
- Decreased cognitive function
- Post-concussive syndrome
- Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy



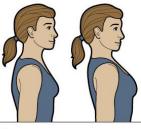




## **Home Exercise Program**

- Cervical retraction
  - Tuck chin in
  - Stretches posterior neck muscles
- Cervical side bending
  - Bring ear toward ipsilateral shoulder
  - Place ipsilateral hand over head to parietal area
  - Push gently to feel stretch of SCM & trapezium
- Cervical rotation
  - Turn head toward ipsilateral shoulder
  - Place ipsilateral hand to contralateral jaw
  - Push gently to feel stretch of SCM ٠

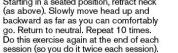
#### **»THE PROGRAM**





**Neck Retraction** While lying faceup or sitting down, bring head straight back, keeping your eyes on the horizon. Then return to neutral. Repeat 10 times.

#### **Head Drop** Starting in a seated position, retract neck (as above). Slowly move head up and



Side Bend Sit down, bring head into neck-retraction position, then gently guide right ear toward right shoulder with right hand. Stop when you feel a stretch on left side of neck. Return to neutral. Repeat 5 times on each side.



#### Rotation

While sitting, bring head into neckretraction position, then gently turn head diagonally to the right so your nose is over your shoulder. Return to neutral. Repeat 5 times in each direction (left and right).

#### Flexion

Sitting down, bring head into neckretraction position. Clasp hands behind head and gently guide head down, bringing chin toward chest. Stop when you feel a stretch in the back of your neck. Return to neutral. Repeat 5 times.

#### **Shoulder Blade Pull**

While sitting, bend raised arms at 90degree angles. Relax shoulders and neck. Keeping arms and neck still, squeeze the muscles between shoulder blades, drawing shoulder blades closer together. Return to neutral. Repeat 5 times.

# **Documentation-Examination**

- EXAMINATION:
- Gen: Patient is alert and oriented to month, date, day of the week, year and time
- Gait: Normal heel, toe and tandem gait
- Head: Normocephalic
- Eyes: Extra-occular muscle intact, pupils are equal, round and reactive to light and accommodation Peripheral visual fields are intact
- Skin: no ecchymosis or edema
- Neuro: sensation intact, reflexes 2/4 UE and LE, heel to shin nml, coordination finger to nose nml, nml rapid alternating motions. Cranial nerves II through XII are grossly intact.
- Psych: mood and affect appropriate
- Special Testing- VOMS? BESS?

- **Cervical exam:** No tenderness to palpation of the midline cervical spinous process or transverse processes, full range of motion without any significant tenderness, mild tenderness to palpation of the paravertebral cervical region on the {LEFT/RIGHT:2652}
- MSK strength:
- 5/5 Shoulder abduction bilaterally (C5)
- 5/5 Elbow extension bilaterally (C7)
- 5/5 Elbow flexion bilaterally (C6)
- 5/5 Wrist extension bilaterally (C7)
- 5/5 FDI and ADM bilaterally (C8)
- 5/5 Grip bilaterally (T1)
- 5/5 Hip Flexion (L2)
- 5/5 Knee extension (L3)
- 5/5 ADF (L4)
- 5/5 EHL (L5)
- 5/5 APF (S1)



## Effective and Efficient OMM Techniques to Consider

Cervical soft tissue

Sub-occipital release

Trapezius Pinch

Thoracic Inlet treatment (Indirect)

Muscle Energy C2-C7

Muscle energy for trapezius / levator scapulae / SCM

Occiput-C1 muscle energy

C1-C2 muscle energy

\*Cranial

# DOCUMENTATION-OSTEOPATHIC STRUCTURAL EXAMINATION

- Head/Cranial: OA FSrRI; left suboccipital muscle hypertonicity
- Cervical- AA Rl, right paraspinal hypertonicity
- Thoracic- T1 F/E RrSr
- Ribs- Rib 1- exhaled on right
- Upper extremity- restriction of right SCM, levator scapulae, and trapezius



# **OMT Procedure NOTE**

• After discussion of risks and benefits, patient was treated with osteopathic manipulation to the head, cervical spine, thoracic spine, ribs and upper extremity (5-6 regions) using soft tissues, MFR, ME techniques. Patient had no complications of procedure and had improvement in pain, function and range of motion.

Date of Office	Visit		1			l Exan							cipant						
		/		/		-						· ·							
Physician's Na											Phy	/sicia	1 ID‡	#:					
Patient Classif	fication:	🗆 Ne	w Pat	tient		□ R	eturnir	ng Pa	tient	t									
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T5-T9		HH	H	Ħ	ΤŬ	H		Ħ	HH	TH	- =								
T10-T12		H H	HH	H	+H	H	$+ \exists +$	Ħ	ΗĦ										
Ribs			H	Ħ				Ħ											
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											🗆 No	-	73	9.8	R	ibs		739.7	Upper Ex

VALUES | EDUCATIO



# Documentation/Billing

- Diagnosis- 1) Concussion, 2) Cervicogenic headaches, 3) Somatic dysfunction of head, cervical spine, thoracic spine, ribs, and upper extremity
- Somatic dysfunction areas treated (98927 for OMM to 5-6 areas):
  - Head / Cranium
  - Upper extremity
  - Cervical
  - Thoracic
  - Ribs
- Established patient/New patient/Consult
- Remember -25 Modifier to indicate that a separately identifiable service was performed on the same day
- In-office exercises taught and successful demonstrated
  - 97110- "Therapeutic procedure, 1 or more areas, each 15 minutes; therapeutic exercises to develop strength and endurance, range of motion and flexibility"



# **QUESTIONS?**



## Email: <u>AnneMarie.Zeller@LMUNet.edu</u>

# IG: @Zeller.SportsMedicine

"Voila! ... Concussion-proof!"

# Works Cited

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# ADDENDUM- Osteopathic Manipulative Treatments for Post-concussion Cervicogenic Headaches



# A.T. Still Quote

An osteopath is only a human engineer, who should understand all the laws governing his engine and thereby master disease.

- Autobiography of A.T. Still



# Contra-indications to OMM

- ABSOLUTE
  - Vertebral fracture
  - Neurologic loss
  - Cervical instability traumatic
  - Nerve root avulsion
  - Bone metastasis to cervical spine
- Cautions
  - Cervical instability from Down's Syndrome (C1-C2 instability) and severe cervical OA
  - Disc herniation
  - Spinal stenosis
  - Hemophilia (direct techniques)
  - Uncooperative patient
  - Medical-legal issues



# Does Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine work for Cervicogenic Headaches?

Let us not be governed today by what we did yesterday, nor tomorrow by what we do today, for day by day we must show progress. "

-Still. A. T., Journal of Osteopathy, 1898



## Pitfalls in Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment Research and Practice

Subjectivity of treatments	Time consuming	Reimbursement/funding	Bias?
<ul><li>Dosage</li><li>Frequency</li><li>Modalities</li><li>Duration</li></ul>	<ul> <li>5-30 mins</li> <li>Clinic appointment time requirements</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Billing/coding lack of knowledge</li> <li>Funding??</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Persons with low levels of education</li> <li>Non-White and Hispanic patients</li> </ul>



Evidence Based Research for OMM for Cervical Spine

- Groisman et al 2019
  - N=90- randomized control trial
  - OMT and exercises and exercises
  - Exercise group once a week for 4 weeks
    - Stabilization, flexing, extension and rotation exercises for the cervical region
    - Self-mobilization targeting the deep neck muscles
  - OMT treatment (also with exercise) once a week for 4 weeks, 50-60 min per session.
    - Ten registered osteopaths performed all the treatments.
    - The osteopathic manipulative treatment entailed: direct (high-velocity low-amplitude; muscle energy; and myofascial release), indirect (functional techniques and balanced ligamentous tension), visceral and cranial techniques

# Evidence Based Research for OMM for Cervical Spine

- Cholewicki et al 2022
  - N=97
  - Evaluated thoracic spine, rib cage, cervical spine, cranium
  - Treatment with HVLA to cervical spine, then could choose if needed soft tissue, muscle energy, myofascial or articulatory techniques
  - Received 3-4 treatments over 4-6 weeks
  - Improved pain, disability, sleep, fatigue and depression

# Evidence Based Research for OMM for Cervical Spine

- No determination for appropriate "dose"
- RCT benefits with cervicogenic headache (CGH) management, but little known with post-concussion CGH
- Heterogeneity of the treatment's limits comparison of studies
- Positive response predictors for manual & manipulative treatments<sup>1</sup>
  - High frequency of attacks
  - Relief of headache with movement
  - Manual trigger point treatment
- Discussed research of main areas of treatment for CGH<sup>1</sup>
  - Upper spine
  - Thoracic
  - Deep cervical flexors

### VALUES | EDUCATION | SERVICE

Fernadez-de-las-Penas et al (2014)

# Evidence Based Research for OMM for Cervical Spine

- Bryans <sup>1</sup> practice recommendations:
  - Spinal manipulation: CGH, specifically HVLA
  - Joint mobilization (small oscillation motions): CGH
  - Deep neck flexor home exercises: BID for 6 weeks
- Case Reports: Combined Concussion & CGH symptoms
  - Guemsey<sup>2</sup>: resolved concussion symptoms & improved balance immediately after OMM
  - Castillo<sup>3</sup>: 16 yo female treated with OMM

1. Bryans *et al.* (2011), 2. Guemsey *et al.* (2016) 3. Castillo *et al.* (2016)



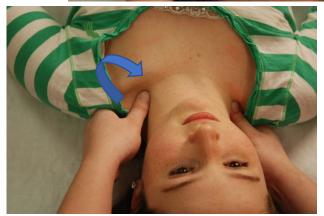
- Nerves close to somatic areas:
  - Suboccipital nerve innervates **OA joint**
  - C2 spinal nerve, dorsal root ganglion close proximity to lateral capsule AA zygopophyseal joint, AA and C2-3 zygopophyseal joints
  - Decreased CGH with discectomy at C5-C6

Biodi (2005) VALUES | EDUCATION | SERVICE

### Myofascial Release of Cervico-Thoracic Inlet Technique

- Place thumbs on 1<sup>st</sup> ribs near cervico-thoracic junction
- Evaluate freedom of movement in rotation and sidebending (1<sup>st</sup> rib moves caudal)
- Gently apply pressure with thumb in direction of the ease of motion until tissue relaxes or motion is less asymmetric
  - Optional: Approximate hands during techniques to enhance release
- Picture shows ease of motion in side-bending and rotation to the right







# Sub-occipital Release

- Place hands near inferior nuchal line
- Lift head up onto fingertips
- Allow a slow release of tissues under head until head is back to neutral
- Repeat 2-3 times



# Muscle Energy for Trapezius

- Trapezius isolation for treatment:
  - Place distal hand near AC joint
  - Place superior hand on occiput
  - Side bend away with small amount of cervical flexion
  - Ask pt to shrug shoulder
  - Ask pt to move head to neutral
  - Alternate command motion
  - Repeat 2 times



**Trapezius treatment position** 

# Muscle Energy for Levator Scapulae

- Levator scapulae isolation:
  - Place distal hand near superior border of scapula
  - Place superior hand on C2/C3
  - Side bend away with cervical rotation and flexion
  - Ask pt to shrug shoulder
  - Ask pt move head to neutral
  - Alternate command motion
  - Repeat 2 times



Levator scapulae treatment position

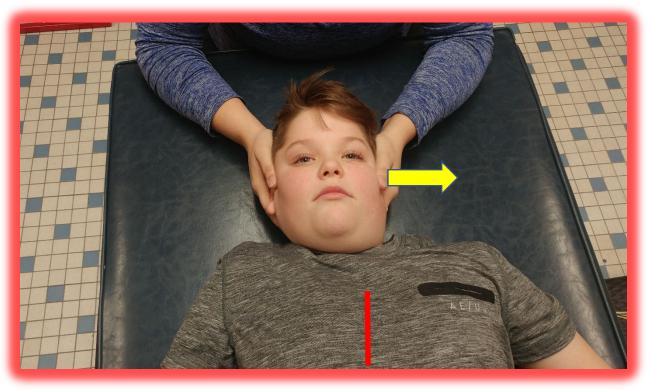
# Muscle Energy for Sternocleidomastoid (SCM)

- SCM isolation:
  - Place distal hand near superior clavicle
  - Place superior hand on mastoid process
  - Side bend away and rotate towards treatment side
  - Ask pt to shrug shoulder
  - Ask pt to move head to neutral
  - Alternative command motion
  - Repeat 2 times



Sternocleidomastoid treatment position

# Occipital-Atlantal Muscle Energy Treatment



• Diagnosis:

- Induce mild cervical flexion
- Translate L & R
- Repeat with mild cervical extension
- Note direction of ease & restriction
- Picture shows OA restricted right
- Treatment:
  - Translate head into restriction
  - Ask patient to push head to neutral for 3 secs (yellow arrow)
  - Return patient head to neutral
  - Repeat 2 times

# Atlanto-Axial Muscle Energy Treatment

- Diagnosis:
  - Introduce 30-45 degrees of cervical flexion
  - Introduce rotation to R/L
  - Note area of ease & restriction
  - Picture shows AA restricted right
- Treatment:
  - Rotate pt head into restriction
  - Ask pt to rotate head to neutral (yellow arrow)
  - Repeat 2 times

