

ImPact Program Implementation

What is ImPact?

ImPact is a sophisticated, research-based computer test developed to help clinicians evaluate an athlete's recovery following a concussion. Impact is a 20-minute neurocognitive test battery that has been scientifically validated to measure the effects of sports related concussions. In the preseason, each athlete is given a baseline test. When a concussion is suspected, during the season, a follow-up test is administered to see if the results have changed from the baseline. This comparison helps to diagnose and manage the concussion. Follow-up tests can be administered over days or weeks so clinicians can continue to track the athlete's recovery from the injury.

Why use ImPact?

ImPact can help answer difficult questions about an athlete's readiness to return to play, protecting the athlete from the potential serious consequences of returning too soon. Clinicians must often rely on subjective observations or patient self-reports to diagnose and track a concussion. This is where ImPact can help. This testing can also be helpful in determining if the student athlete needs accommodations for their class work while recovering from a concussion.

Who will receive Impact testing?

For the 2008-09 school year, only football, and boys and girls soccer will be tested. These two sports, based on national statistics, have the greatest occurrences of concussions. More teams could be added in succeeding years.

Who will sponsor and administer the ImPact program ?

Oregon Health Sciences University will work with the Certified Athletic Trainers at each of the five Beaverton School District comprehensive high schools to make the program available to our football and soccer athletes for the upcoming school year. The certified trainers will administer the tests to the athletes. There will be no cost to the athlete or the athlete's family.

When and where will the athletes be tested?

The majority of the football and soccer athletes will be tested the week of August 15 - 18. Any athletes not tested that week will have the opportunity to be tested on the first day of tryouts, August 22. The tests will be administered at the athletes' comprehensive high school in designated computer rooms, approximately 25 students at a time.

CONSENT FOR COGNITIVE TESTING and RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I give permission for (name of child) _____

(child's date of birth) _____

to be tested as part of the ImPact program implementation sponsored by OHSU and the Beaverton School District. I understand that my child may be tested more than once, if my child incurs a concussion injury. I understand that there is no charge for the testing.

_____ (your child's comprehensive high school) may release the ImPact results to my child's primary care physician, neurologist, or other treating physician, as indicated below. I understand that in the case of a concussion injury, general information about the test data may be provided to my child's guidance counselor and teachers for the purpose of providing temporary academic modifications, if necessary. I agree to release from liability and to indemnify and hold harmless the school district, sponsors, employees, school board members, volunteers, and agents from any and all claims and liabilities (including costs and attorney fees) arising out of or in any way connected to the failure to diagnose a head injury following participation in this program.

Name of parent or guardian: _____

Signature of parent or guardian: _____

Date: _____