

Dear Parents/Guardians:

**Please Complete this check list prior to returning your child's pre-participation physical to the High School Main Office.**

Any sections left blank (i.e. questions, signatures, or dates) will count as a **VOID** physical and **will not** be cleared by our school's physician. This check list will help us all avoid secondary doctor's visits or returned paper work which will all lead to a delay in participation for your child. So please review all paperwork carefully. Please bring all sections of the physical with you to the doctor's office so that the health history may be reviewed by your physician. Please return completed physicals to the main office.

- \_\_\_ Today's Date (the date in which all questions were answered)
- \_\_\_ What sports will your child be participating in (i.e. Soccer, Swimming, Softball)
- \_\_\_ If any of the answers to the questions were YES – Explain ALL
- \_\_\_ If you circle **Y** for use of an inhaler- an **Asthma Treatment Plan** must be completed and signed by both the parent and doctor.
- \_\_\_ Completed in full **HISTORY FORM**
- \_\_\_ Completed **PHYSICAL EVALUATION FORM**
- \_\_\_ Completed **CLEARANCE FORM**

**\*\*\* Double Check that the following have been completed during you doctors visit**

- \_\_\_ Vision
- \_\_\_ Blood Pressure
- \_\_\_ Pulse
- \_\_\_ **Physician/Provider's Signature**
- \_\_\_ **Date of the EXAM**

- \_\_\_ **Signed and Completed NJSIAA Concussion Policy Acknowledgement Form**
- \_\_\_ **Signed and Completed NJSIAA Steroid Testing Policy Consent for Random Testing Form**
- \_\_\_ **Signed and Completed NJSIAA Sudden Cardiac Death Pamphlet Sign-off**

No athlete is permitted to participate in any practices, scrimmages, or games unless he/she has a current physical on file. If you child's past physical will expire during the upcoming season, please plan ahead accordingly and make an appointment for their new physical, this will prevent any missed practices or games. Each physical is good for 365 days. Any questions, please don't hesitate to call!

Contact info- Jennifer Smith ATC –Athletic Trainer – (856) 589-1350  
jensmith@pitman.k12.nj.us



## **Pitman High School Athletics**

Dave Suiter • Director of Athletics  
Jennifer Smith • Athletic Trainer/Coordinator  
225 Linden Ave  
Pitman, NJ 08071  
(856) 589-1689

### **Concussion Education/Compliance Policy and Concussion Management Protocol**

In compliance with the requirements of the NJSIAA Concussion Policy, Pitman High School has established the following Concussion Education/Compliance Policy and Concussion Management Protocol.

#### **Concussion Education/Compliance Policy**

##### **Parents/Guardians:**

- Beginning January 1, 2014, the parents/guardians of all student-athletes are to review, on an annual basis, the concussion information found in the Pre-season Physical Forms Packet. They will be required to submit written verification acknowledging that they have read this information. Students will not be permitted to participate without a verification form on file in the Athletic Office.

##### **Students:**

- Beginning January 1, 2014, the parents/guardians of all student-athletes are to review, on an annual basis, the concussion information found in the Pre-season Physical Forms Packet. They will be required to submit written verification acknowledging that they have read this information. Students will not be permitted to participate without a verification form on file in the Athletic Office.

##### **Athletic Department Personnel:**

- Beginning January 1, 2014, ALL Athletic Department personnel (athletic director, athletic trainer, coaches, and school nurse), and all subsequent appointments, shall be required to complete the NFHS Course "**Concussion in Sports - What You Need To Know**". A copy of the course completion certificate will be kept on file in the Athletic Office.

#### **CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL**

##### **Emergency Action Plan When a Concussion is suspected:**

1. Once a student-athlete is suspected to have suffered a concussion he/she will be removed from play immediately and will be evaluated by an appropriate health care professional.
2. The coach or athletic trainer will notify the parents/guardians about the possible concussion and give them information on concussions.
3. The student-athlete will be kept out of play the day of the injury and until a health care professional, **trained in the evaluation and management of concussions**, says he/she is symptom free and gives clearance to return to activity.
4. The Zurich Guidelines for Return-to-Play after a concussion will be implemented. A return-to-sports clearance that is inconsistent with our concussion guidelines will not be accepted and the matter will be referred to our school physician.

***At the direction of our school physician, Dr. Gregory Herman, and adopted by the Pitman High School District Board of Education, Pitman School District follows the concussion guidelines set forth by the Zurich Concussion Consensus Statement<sup>1</sup> and the NJSIAA<sup>2</sup> as described below:***

### **Return to Play Guidelines**

First time concussed athletes with no loss of consciousness and sign/symptoms lasting less than 7 days may return to play when he/she meets the following criteria:

- 1. Asymptomatic (with no use of medications to mask headache or other symptoms).**
- 2. Completes the Zurich Activity Progression (see below) once asymptomatic for 24 hours and medically cleared to do so.**
- 3. ImPACT scores return to within normal limits of baseline (if applicable).**

**Any loss of consciousness, signs/symptoms lasting 7 days or longer, or repeat concussions will require a minimum 7 day asymptomatic period and medical clearance before beginning the Zurich Activity Progression and will be managed on an individualized basis as approved by the school physician. The asymptomatic period for any concussion may be extended at the discretion of the Pitman physician and athletic trainer.**

**Physician clearance notes inconsistent with the concussion policy may not be accepted and such matters will be referred to our school physician.**

### **Zurich Return to Activity Progression**

We follow a stepwise activity progression based on recommendations in the Zurich Consensus Statement from the 3rd International Congress on Concussion in Sport<sup>1</sup> as follows:

- Step 1: Light aerobic exercise (ie: stationary bike, elliptical machine)
- Step 2: Moderate aerobic exercises (begin running program)
- Step 3: Functional exercises (increase running intensity, begin agilitys, non-contact sport-specific drills)
- Step 4: Non-contact practice activities
- Step 5: Full contact practice activities
- Step 6: Full game play

**Each step is separated by 24 hours.** If any symptoms occur, the athlete will drop back to the previous level and try to progress again after 24 hours of rest has passed

### **ImPACT Testing**

In all Athletic Activities at Pitman High School we require pre-season baseline and post-concussion neurocognitive testing using the ImPACT® (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) software program to assist in the management of head injuries. The 20-minute program is set up in a "video-game" format. It tracks neurocognitive information such as memory, reaction time, brain processing speed and concentration. We conduct a post-concussive test when the athlete is asymptomatic and continue to test the athlete until their scores return to normal. Please note that this program is used only as a tool in making return to play decisions. Additional information about ImPACT® can be found at [www.impacttest.com](http://www.impacttest.com).

# PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION HISTORY FORM

(Note: This form is to be filled out by the patient and parent prior to seeing the physician. The physician should keep a copy of this form in the chart.)

Date of Exam \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Sport(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Medicines and Allergies:** Please list all of the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and supplements (herbal and nutritional) that you are currently taking

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Do you have any allergies? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please identify specific allergy below.

☐ Medicines ☐ Pollens ☐ Food ☐ Stinging Insects

Explain "Yes" answers below. Circle questions you don't know the answers to.

GENERAL QUESTIONS	Yes	No
1. Has a doctor ever denied or restricted your participation in sports for any reason?		
2. Do you have any ongoing medical conditions? If so, please identify below: <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma <input type="checkbox"/> Anemia <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Infections Other: _____		
3. Have you ever spent the night in the hospital?		
4. Have you ever had surgery?		
HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU	Yes	No
5. Have you ever passed out or nearly passed out DURING or AFTER exercise?		
6. Have you ever had discomfort, pain, tightness, or pressure in your chest during exercise?		
7. Does your heart ever race or skip beats (irregular beats) during exercise?		
8. Has a doctor ever told you that you have any heart problems? If so, check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> High blood pressure <input type="checkbox"/> A heart murmur <input type="checkbox"/> High cholesterol <input type="checkbox"/> A heart infection <input type="checkbox"/> Kawasaki disease Other: _____		
9. Has a doctor ever ordered a test for your heart? (For example, ECG/EKG, echocardiogram)		
10. Do you get lightheaded or feel more short of breath than expected during exercise?		
11. Have you ever had an unexplained seizure?		
12. Do you get more tired or short of breath more quickly than your friends during exercise?		
HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY	Yes	No
13. Has any family member or relative died of heart problems or had an unexpected or unexplained sudden death before age 50 (including drowning, unexplained car accident, or sudden infant death syndrome)?		
14. Does anyone in your family have hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Marfan syndrome, arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy, long QT syndrome, short QT syndrome, Brugada syndrome, or catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia?		
15. Does anyone in your family have a heart problem, pacemaker, or implanted defibrillator?		
16. Has anyone in your family had unexplained fainting, unexplained seizures, or near drowning?		
BONE AND JOINT QUESTIONS	Yes	No
17. Have you ever had an injury to a bone, muscle, ligament, or tendon that caused you to miss a practice or a game?		
18. Have you ever had any broken or fractured bones or dislocated joints?		
19. Have you ever had an injury that required x-rays, MRI, CT scan, injections, therapy, a brace, a cast, or crutches?		
20. Have you ever had a stress fracture?		
21. Have you ever been told that you have or have you had an x-ray for neck instability or atlantoaxial instability? (Down syndrome or dwarfism)		
22. Do you regularly use a brace, orthotics, or other assistive device?		
23. Do you have a bone, muscle, or joint injury that bothers you?		
24. Do any of your joints become painful, swollen, feel warm, or look red?		
25. Do you have any history of juvenile arthritis or connective tissue disease?		

MEDICAL QUESTIONS	Yes	No
26. Do you cough, wheeze, or have difficulty breathing during or after exercise?		
27. Have you ever used an inhaler or taken asthma medicine?		
28. Is there anyone in your family who has asthma?		
29. Were you born without or are you missing a kidney, an eye, a testicle (males), your spleen, or any other organ?		
30. Do you have groin pain or a painful bulge or hernia in the groin area?		
31. Have you had infectious mononucleosis (mono) within the last month?		
32. Do you have any rashes, pressure sores, or other skin problems?		
33. Have you had a herpes or MRSA skin infection?		
34. Have you ever had a head injury or concussion?		
35. Have you ever had a hit or blow to the head that caused confusion, prolonged headache, or memory problems?		
36. Do you have a history of seizure disorder?		
37. Do you have headaches with exercise?		
38. Have you ever had numbness, tingling, or weakness in your arms or legs after being hit or falling?		
39. Have you ever been unable to move your arms or legs after being hit or falling?		
40. Have you ever become ill while exercising in the heat?		
41. Do you get frequent muscle cramps when exercising?		
42. Do you or someone in your family have sickle cell trait or disease?		
43. Have you had any problems with your eyes or vision?		
44. Have you had any eye injuries?		
45. Do you wear glasses or contact lenses?		
46. Do you wear protective eyewear, such as goggles or a face shield?		
47. Do you worry about your weight?		
48. Are you trying to or has anyone recommended that you gain or lose weight?		
49. Are you on a special diet or do you avoid certain types of foods?		
50. Have you ever had an eating disorder?		
51. Do you have any concerns that you would like to discuss with a doctor?		
FEMALES ONLY		
52. Have you ever had a menstrual period?		
53. How old were you when you had your first menstrual period?		
54. How many periods have you had in the last 12 months?		

Explain "yes" answers here

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I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the above questions are complete and correct.

Signature of athlete \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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New Jersey Department of Education 2014; Pursuant to P.L.2013, c. 71

9-2681/0410

# ■ PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION

## THE ATHLETE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: SUPPLEMENTAL HISTORY FORM

Date of Exam \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Sport(s) \_\_\_\_\_

1. Type of disability		
2. Date of disability		
3. Classification (if available)		
4. Cause of disability (birth, disease, accident/trauma, other)		
5. List the sports you are interested in playing		
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
6. Do you regularly use a brace, assistive device, or prosthetic?		
7. Do you use any special brace or assistive device for sports?		
8. Do you have any rashes, pressure sores, or any other skin problems?		
9. Do you have a hearing loss? Do you use a hearing aid?		
10. Do you have a visual impairment?		
11. Do you use any special devices for bowel or bladder function?		
12. Do you have burning or discomfort when urinating?		
13. Have you had autonomic dysreflexia?		
14. Have you ever been diagnosed with a heat-related (hyperthermia) or cold-related (hypothermia) illness?		
15. Do you have muscle spasticity?		
16. Do you have frequent seizures that cannot be controlled by medication?		

**Explain "yes" answers here**

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**Please indicate if you have ever had any of the following.**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Atlantoaxial instability		
X-ray evaluation for atlantoaxial instability		
Dislocated joints (more than one)		
Easy bleeding		
Enlarged spleen		
Hepatitis		
Osteopenia or osteoporosis		
Difficulty controlling bowel		
Difficulty controlling bladder		
Numbness or tingling in arms or hands		
Numbness or tingling in legs or feet		
Weakness in arms or hands		
Weakness in legs or feet		
Recent change in coordination		
Recent change in ability to walk		
Spina bifida		
Latex allergy		

**Explain "yes" answers here**

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**I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the above questions are complete and correct.**

Signature of athlete \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# ■ PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION

## PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

### PHYSICIAN REMINDERS

- Consider additional questions on more sensitive issues
  - Do you feel stressed out or under a lot of pressure?
  - Do you ever feel sad, hopeless, depressed, or anxious?
  - Do you feel safe at your home or residence?
  - Have you ever tried cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
  - During the past 30 days, did you use chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
  - Do you drink alcohol or use any other drugs?
  - Have you ever taken anabolic steroids or used any other performance supplement?
  - Have you ever taken any supplements to help you gain or lose weight or improve your performance?
  - Do you wear a seat belt, use a helmet, and use condoms?
- Consider reviewing questions on cardiovascular symptoms (questions 5–14).

EXAMINATION		
Height _____	Weight _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
BP _____ / _____ ( _____ / _____ )	Pulse _____	Vision R 20/ _____ L 20/ _____ Corrected <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
MEDICAL	NORMAL	ABNORMAL FINDINGS
Appearance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marfan stigmata (kyphoscoliosis, high-arched palate, pectus excavatum, arachnodactyly, arm span &gt; height, hyperlaxity, myopia, MVP, aortic insufficiency)</li> </ul>		
Eyes/ears/nose/throat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils equal</li> <li>Hearing</li> </ul>		
Lymph nodes		
Heart <sup>a</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Murmurs (auscultation standing, supine, +/- Valsalva)</li> <li>Location of point of maximal impulse (PMI)</li> </ul>		
Pulses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simultaneous femoral and radial pulses</li> </ul>		
Lungs		
Abdomen		
Genitourinary (males only) <sup>b</sup>		
Skin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSV, lesions suggestive of MRSA, tinea corporis</li> </ul>		
Neurologic <sup>c</sup>		
MUSCULOSKELETAL		
Neck		
Back		
Shoulder/arm		
Elbow/forearm		
Wrist/hand/fingers		
Hip/thigh		
Knee		
Leg/ankle		
Foot/toes		
Functional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Duck-walk, single leg hop</li> </ul>		

<sup>a</sup>Consider ECG, echocardiogram, and referral to cardiology for abnormal cardiac history or exam.

<sup>b</sup>Consider GU exam if in private setting. Having third party present is recommended.

<sup>c</sup>Consider cognitive evaluation or baseline neuropsychiatric testing if a history of significant concussion.

- ☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction
- ☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Not cleared
- ☐ Pending further evaluation
- ☐ For any sports
- ☐ For certain sports \_\_\_\_\_
- Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations \_\_\_\_\_

I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, a physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).

Name of physician, advanced practice nurse (APN), physician assistant (PA) (print/type) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of physician, APN, PA \_\_\_\_\_

# ■ PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION CLEARANCE FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex ☐ M ☐ F Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Not cleared

☐ Pending further evaluation

☐ For any sports

☐ For certain sports \_\_\_\_\_

Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

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Other information \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

**I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, the physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).**

Name of physician, advanced practice nurse (APN), physician assistant (PA) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of physician, APN, PA \_\_\_\_\_

## Completed Cardiac Assessment Professional Development Module

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Asthma Treatment Plan – Student

(This asthma action plan meets NJ Law N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.8) (Physician's Orders)

**The Pediatric/Adult  
Asthma Coalition  
of New Jersey**  
"Your Pathway to Asthma Control"  
PACNJ approved Plan available at  
www.pacnj.org

Sponsored by  
**AMERICAN  
LUNG  
ASSOCIATION**  
IN NEW JERSEY

**NJ Health**  
New Jersey Department of Health



**(Please Print)**

Name	Date of Birth	Effective Date
Doctor	Parent/Guardian (if applicable)	Emergency Contact
Phone	Phone	Phone

## HEALTHY (Green Zone)



You have all of these:

- Breathing is good
- No cough or wheeze
- Sleep through the night
- Can work, exercise, and play

And/or Peak flow above \_\_\_\_\_

**Take daily control medicine(s). Some inhalers may be more effective with a "spacer" – use if directed.**

MEDICINE	HOW MUCH to take and HOW OFTEN to take it
<input type="checkbox"/> Advair® HFA <input type="checkbox"/> 45, <input type="checkbox"/> 115, <input type="checkbox"/> 230 _____	2 puffs twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Alvesco® <input type="checkbox"/> 80, <input type="checkbox"/> 160 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1, <input type="checkbox"/> 2 puffs twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Dulera® <input type="checkbox"/> 100, <input type="checkbox"/> 200 _____	2 puffs twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Flovent® <input type="checkbox"/> 44, <input type="checkbox"/> 110, <input type="checkbox"/> 220 _____	2 puffs twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Qvar® <input type="checkbox"/> 40, <input type="checkbox"/> 80 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1, <input type="checkbox"/> 2 puffs twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Symbicort® <input type="checkbox"/> 80, <input type="checkbox"/> 160 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1, <input type="checkbox"/> 2 puffs twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Advair Diskus® <input type="checkbox"/> 100, <input type="checkbox"/> 250, <input type="checkbox"/> 500 _____	1 inhalation twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Asmanex® Twisthaler® <input type="checkbox"/> 110, <input type="checkbox"/> 220 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1, <input type="checkbox"/> 2 inhalations <input type="checkbox"/> once or <input type="checkbox"/> twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Flovent® Diskus® <input type="checkbox"/> 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 100 <input type="checkbox"/> 250 _____	1 inhalation twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Pulmicort Flexhaler® <input type="checkbox"/> 90, <input type="checkbox"/> 180 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1, <input type="checkbox"/> 2 inhalations <input type="checkbox"/> once or <input type="checkbox"/> twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Pulmicort Respules® (Budesonide) <input type="checkbox"/> 0.25, <input type="checkbox"/> 0.5, <input type="checkbox"/> 1.0 _____	1 unit nebulized <input type="checkbox"/> once or <input type="checkbox"/> twice a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Singulair® (Montelukast) <input type="checkbox"/> 4, <input type="checkbox"/> 5, <input type="checkbox"/> 10 mg _____	1 tablet daily
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> None	

**Remember to rinse your mouth after taking inhaled medicine.**

**If exercise triggers your asthma, take this medicine \_\_\_\_\_ minutes before exercise.**

## CAUTION (Yellow Zone)



You have any of these:

- Cough
- Mild wheeze
- Tight chest
- Coughing at night
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

If quick-relief medicine does not help within 15-20 minutes or has been used more than 2 times and symptoms persist, call your doctor or go to the emergency room.

And/or Peak flow from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**Continue daily control medicine(s) and ADD quick-relief medicine(s).**

MEDICINE	HOW MUCH to take and HOW OFTEN to take it
<input type="checkbox"/> Combivent® <input type="checkbox"/> Maxair® <input type="checkbox"/> Xopenex® _____	2 puffs every 4 hours as needed
<input type="checkbox"/> Ventolin® <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Air® <input type="checkbox"/> Proventil® _____	2 puffs every 4 hours as needed
<input type="checkbox"/> Albuterol <input type="checkbox"/> 1.25, <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 mg _____	1 unit nebulized every 4 hours as needed
<input type="checkbox"/> Duoneb® _____	1 unit nebulized every 4 hours as needed
<input type="checkbox"/> Xopenex® (Levalbuterol) <input type="checkbox"/> 0.31, <input type="checkbox"/> 0.63, <input type="checkbox"/> 1.25 mg _____	1 unit nebulized every 4 hours as needed
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase the dose of, or add:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

**• If quick-relief medicine is needed more than 2 times a week, except before exercise, then call your doctor.**

## EMERGENCY (Red Zone)



Your asthma is getting worse fast:

- Quick-relief medicine did not help within 15-20 minutes
- Breathing is hard or fast
- Nose opens wide • Ribs show
- Trouble walking and talking
- Lips blue • Fingernails blue
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

And/or Peak flow below \_\_\_\_\_

**Take these medicines NOW and CALL 911.  
Asthma can be a life-threatening illness. Do not wait!**

MEDICINE	HOW MUCH to take and HOW OFTEN to take it
<input type="checkbox"/> Combivent® <input type="checkbox"/> Maxair® <input type="checkbox"/> Xopenex® _____	2 puffs every 20 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/> Ventolin® <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Air® <input type="checkbox"/> Proventil® _____	2 puffs every 20 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/> Albuterol <input type="checkbox"/> 1.25, <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 mg _____	1 unit nebulized every 20 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/> Duoneb® _____	1 unit nebulized every 20 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/> Xopenex® (Levalbuterol) <input type="checkbox"/> 0.31, <input type="checkbox"/> 0.63, <input type="checkbox"/> 1.25 mg _____	1 unit nebulized every 20 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

## Triggers

**Check all items that trigger patient's asthma:**

- ☐ Colds/flu
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Allergens
  - Dust Mites, dust, stuffed animals, carpet
  - Pollen - trees, grass, weeds
  - Mold
  - Pets - animal dander
  - Pests - rodents, cockroaches
- ☐ Odors (Irritants)
  - Cigarette smoke & second hand smoke
  - Perfumes, cleaning products, scented products
  - Smoke from burning wood, inside or outside
- ☐ Weather
  - Sudden temperature change
  - Extreme weather - hot and cold
  - Ozone alert days
- ☐ Foods:
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other:
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

This asthma treatment plan is meant to assist, not replace, the clinical decision-making required to meet individual patient needs.

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**REVISED AUGUST 2013**

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**Permission to Self-administer Medication:**

- ☐ This student is capable and has been instructed in the proper method of self-administering of the non-nebulized inhaled medications named above in accordance with NJ Law.
- ☐ This student is not approved to self-medicate.

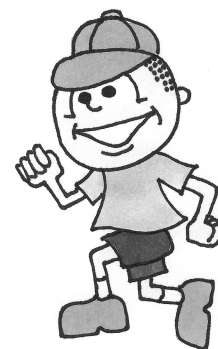
PHYSICIAN/APN/PA SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICIAN STAMP

**Make a copy for parent and for physician file, send original to school nurse or child care provider.**

# Asthma Treatment Plan – Student Parent Instructions



The **PACNJ Asthma Treatment Plan** is designed to help everyone understand the steps necessary for the individual student to achieve the goal of controlled asthma.

**1. Parents/Guardians:** *Before taking this form to your Health Care Provider, complete the top left section with:*

- Child's name
- Child's doctor's name & phone number
- Parent/Guardian's name & phone number
- Child's date of birth
- An Emergency Contact person's name & phone number

**2. Your Health Care Provider will** complete the following areas:

- The effective date of this plan
- The medicine information for the Healthy, Caution and Emergency sections
- Your Health Care Provider will check the box next to the medication and check how much and how often to take it
- Your Health Care Provider may check **"OTHER"** and:
  - ❖ Write in asthma medications not listed on the form
  - ❖ Write in additional medications that will control your asthma
  - ❖ Write in generic medications in place of the name brand on the form
- Together you and your Health Care Provider will decide what asthma treatment is best for your child to follow

**3. Parents/Guardians & Health Care Providers together** will discuss and then complete the following areas:

- Child's peak flow range in the Healthy, Caution and Emergency sections on the left side of the form
- Child's asthma triggers on the right side of the form
- Permission to Self-administer Medication section at the bottom of the form: Discuss your child's ability to self-administer the inhaled medications, check the appropriate box, and then both you and your Health Care Provider must sign and date the form

**4. Parents/Guardians:** *After completing the form with your Health Care Provider:*

- Make copies of the Asthma Treatment Plan and give the signed original to your child's school nurse or child care provider
- Keep a copy easily available at home to help manage your child's asthma
- Give copies of the Asthma Treatment Plan to everyone who provides care for your child, for example: babysitters, before/after school program staff, coaches, scout leaders

## PARENT AUTHORIZATION

I hereby give permission for my child to receive medication at school as prescribed in the Asthma Treatment Plan. Medication must be provided in its original prescription container properly labeled by a pharmacist or physician. I also give permission for the release and exchange of information between the school nurse and my child's health care provider concerning my child's health and medications. In addition, I understand that this information will be shared with school staff on a need to know basis.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**FILL OUT THE SECTION BELOW ONLY IF YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER CHECKED PERMISSION FOR YOUR CHILD TO SELF-ADMINISTER ASTHMA MEDICATION ON THE FRONT OF THIS FORM.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS ARE EFFECTIVE FOR ONE (1) SCHOOL YEAR ONLY AND MUST BE RENEWED ANNUALLY**

- ☐ I do request that my child be **ALLOWED** to carry the following medication \_\_\_\_\_ for self-administration in school pursuant to N.J.A.C.:6A:16-2.3. I give permission for my child to self-administer medication, as prescribed in this Asthma Treatment Plan for the current school year as I consider him/her to be responsible and capable of transporting, storing and self-administration of the medication. Medication must be kept in its original prescription container. I understand that the school district, agents and its employees shall incur no liability as a result of any condition or injury arising from the self-administration by the student of the medication prescribed on this form. I indemnify and hold harmless the School District, its agents and employees against any claims arising out of self-administration or lack of administration of this medication by the student.
- ☐ I **DO NOT** request that my child self-administer his/her asthma medication.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



1161 Route 130, P.O. Box 487, Robbinsville, NJ 08691 609-259-2776 609-259-3047-Fax

## **NJSIAA STEROID TESTING POLICY**

### **CONSENT TO RANDOM TESTING**

In Executive Order 72, issued December 20, 2005, Governor Richard Codey directed the New Jersey Department of Education to work in conjunction with the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) to develop and implement a program of random testing for steroids, of teams and individuals qualifying for championship games.

Beginning in the Fall, 2006 sports season, any student-athlete who possesses, distributes, ingests or otherwise uses any of the banned substances on the attached page, without written prescription by a fully-licensed physician, as recognized by the American Medical Association, to treat a medical condition, violates the NJSIAA's sportsmanship rule, and is subject to NJSIAA penalties, including ineligibility from competition. The NJSIAA will test certain randomly selected individuals and teams that qualify for a state championship tournament or state championship competition for banned substances. The results of all tests shall be considered confidential and shall only be disclosed to the student, his or her parents and his or her school. No student may participate in NJSIAA competition unless the student and the student's parent/guardian consent to random testing.

By signing below, we consent to random testing in accordance with the NJSIAA steroid testing policy. We understand that, if the student or the student's team qualifies for a state championship tournament or state championship competition, the student may be subject to testing for banned substances.

---

Signature of Student-Athlete

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Print Student-Athlete's Name

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Date

---

Signature of Parent/Guardian

---

Print Parent/Guardian's Name

---

Date

## **Sports-Related Concussion and Head Injury Fact Sheet and Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement Form**

A concussion is a brain injury that can be caused by a blow to the head or body that disrupts normal functioning of the brain. Concussions are a type of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), which can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally functions. Concussions can cause significant and sustained neuropsychological impairment affecting problem solving, planning, memory, attention, concentration, and behavior.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 300,000 concussions are sustained during sports related activities nationwide, and more than 62,000 concussions are sustained each year in high school contact sports. Second-impact syndrome occurs when a person sustains a second concussion while still experiencing symptoms of a previous concussion. It can lead to severe impairment and even death of the victim.

Legislation (P.L. 2010, Chapter 94) signed on December 7, 2010, mandated measures to be taken in order to ensure the safety of K-12 student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports in New Jersey. It is imperative that athletes, coaches, and parent/guardians are educated about the nature and treatment of sports related concussions and other head injuries. The legislation states that:

- All Coaches, Athletic Trainers, School Nurses, and School/Team Physicians shall complete an Interscholastic Head Injury Safety Training Program by the 2011-2012 school year.
- All school districts, charter, and non-public schools that participate in interscholastic sports will distribute annually this educational fact to all student athletes and obtain a signed acknowledgement from each parent/guardian and student-athlete.
- Each school district, charter, and non-public school shall develop a written policy describing the prevention and treatment of sports-related concussion and other head injuries sustained by interscholastic student-athletes.
- Any student-athlete who participates in an interscholastic sports program and is suspected of sustaining a concussion will be immediately removed from competition or practice. The student-athlete will not be allowed to return to competition or practice until he/she has written clearance from a physician trained in concussion treatment and has completed his/her district's graduated return-to-play protocol.

### **Quick Facts**

- Most concussions do not involve loss of consciousness
- You can sustain a concussion even if you do not hit your head
- A blow elsewhere on the body can transmit an "impulsive" force to the brain and cause a concussion

### **Signs of Concussions (Observed by Coach, Athletic Trainer, Parent/Guardian)**

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Forgets plays or demonstrates short term memory difficulties (e.g. unsure of game, opponent)
- Exhibits difficulties with balance, coordination, concentration, and attention
- Answers questions slowly or inaccurately
- Demonstrates behavior or personality changes
- Is unable to recall events prior to or after the hit or fall

### **Symptoms of Concussion (Reported by Student-Athlete)**

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| • Headache                           | • Sensitivity to light/sound   |
| • Nausea/vomiting                    | • Feeling of sluggishness or fogginess                               |
| • Balance problems or dizziness      | • Difficulty with concentration, short term memory, and/or confusion |
| • Double vision or changes in vision |  |

**What Should a Student-Athlete do if they think they have a concussion?**

- **Don't hide it.** Tell your Athletic Trainer, Coach, School Nurse, or Parent/Guardian.
- **Report it.** Don't return to competition or practice with symptoms of a concussion or head injury. The sooner you report it, the sooner you may return-to-play.
- **Take time to recover.** If you have a concussion your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is healing you are much more likely to sustain a second concussion. Repeat concussions can cause permanent brain injury.

**What can happen if a student-athlete continues to play with a concussion or returns to play too soon?**

- Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the student-athlete vulnerable to second impact syndrome.
- Second impact syndrome is when a student-athlete sustains a second concussion while still having symptoms from a previous concussion or head injury.
- Second impact syndrome can lead to severe impairment and even death in extreme cases.

**Should there be any temporary academic accommodations made for Student-Athletes who have suffered a concussion?**

- To recover cognitive rest is just as important as physical rest. Reading, texting, testing-even watching movies can slow down a student-athletes recovery.
- Stay home from school with minimal mental and social stimulation until all symptoms have resolved.
- Students may need to take rest breaks, spend fewer hours at school, be given extra time to complete assignments, as well as being offered other instructional strategies and classroom accommodations.

**Student-Athletes who have sustained a concussion should complete a graduated return-to-play before they may resume competition or practice, according to the following protocol:**

- **Step 1:** Completion of a full day of normal cognitive activities (school day, studying for tests, watching practice, interacting with peers) without reemergence of any signs or symptoms. If no return of symptoms, next day advance.
- **Step 2:** Light Aerobic exercise, which includes walking, swimming, and stationary cycling, keeping the intensity below 70% maximum heart rate. No resistance training. The objective of this step is increased heart rate.
- **Step 3:** Sport-specific exercise including skating, and/or running: no head impact activities. The objective of this step is to add movement.
- **Step 4:** Non contact training drills (e.g. passing drills). Student-athlete may initiate resistance training.
- **Step 5:** Following medical clearance (consultation between school health care personnel and student-athlete's physician), participation in normal training activities. The objective of this step is to restore confidence and assess functional skills by coaching and medical staff.
- **Step 6:** Return to play involving normal exertion or game activity.

For further information on Sports-Related Concussions and other Head Injuries, please visit:

[www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports/index.html)

[www.nfhs.com](http://www.nfhs.com)

[www.ncaa.org/health-safety](http://www.ncaa.org/health-safety)

[www.bianj.org](http://www.bianj.org)

[www.attnj.org](http://www.attnj.org)

---

Signature of Student-Athlete

---

Print Student-Athlete's Name

---

Date

---

Signature of Parent/Guardian

---

Print Parent/Guardian's Name

---

Date

## Website Resources

- Sudden Death in Athletes  
[www.cardiachealth.org/sudden-death-in-athletes](http://www.cardiachealth.org/sudden-death-in-athletes)
- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association  
[www.4hcm.org](http://www.4hcm.org)
- American Heart Association [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org)

## Collaborating Agencies:

### American Academy of Pediatrics New Jersey Chapter

3836 Quakerbridge Road, Suite 108  
Hamilton, NJ 08619  
(p) 609-842-0014  
(f) 609-842-0015  
[www.aapnj.org](http://www.aapnj.org)



### American Heart Association

1 Union Street, Suite 301  
Robbinsville, NJ, 08691  
(p) 609-208-0020  
[www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org)



### New Jersey Department of Education

PO Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500  
(p) 609-292-5935  
[www.state.nj.us/education/](http://www.state.nj.us/education/)



### New Jersey Department of Health

P. O. Box 360  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360  
(p) 609-292-7837  
[www.state.nj.us/health](http://www.state.nj.us/health)

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# SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH IN YOUNG ATHLETES

## The Basic Facts on Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes

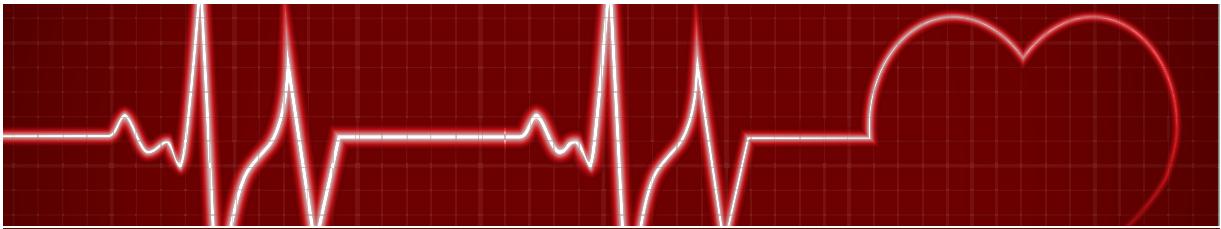


STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

American Heart  
Association



*Learn and Live*



## SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH IN YOUNG ATHLETES

**S**udden death in young athletes between the ages of 10 and 19 is very rare. What, if anything, can be done to prevent this kind of tragedy?



### What is sudden cardiac death in the young athlete?

Sudden cardiac death is the result of an unexpected failure of proper heart function, usually (about 60% of the time) during or immediately after exercise without trauma. Since the heart stops pumping adequately, the athlete quickly collapses, loses consciousness, and ultimately dies unless normal heart rhythm is restored using an automated external defibrillator (AED).

### How common is sudden death in young athletes?

Sudden cardiac death in young athletes is very rare. About 100 such deaths are reported in the United States per year. The chance of sudden death occurring to any individual high school athlete is about one in 200,000 per year.

Sudden cardiac death is more common: in males than in females; in football and basketball than in other sports; and in African-Americans than in other races and ethnic groups.



### What are the most common causes?

Research suggests that the main cause is a loss of proper heart rhythm, causing the heart to quiver instead of pumping blood to the brain and body. This is called ventricular fibrillation (ven-TRICK-you-lar fib-roo-LAY-shun). The problem is usually caused by one of several cardiovascular abnormalities and electrical diseases of the heart that go unnoticed in healthy-appearing athletes.

The most common cause of sudden death in an athlete is hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (hi-per-TRO-fic CAR-dee-oh-my-OP-a-thee) also called HCM. HCM is a disease of the heart, with abnormal thickening of the heart muscle, which can cause serious heart rhythm problems and blockages to blood flow. This genetic disease runs in families and usually develops gradually over many years.

The second most likely cause is congenital (con-JEN-it-al) (i.e., present from birth) abnormalities of the coronary arteries. This means that these blood vessels are connected to the main blood vessel of the heart in an abnormal way. This differs from blockages that may occur when people get older (commonly called "coronary artery disease," which may lead to a heart attack).

# SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH IN YOUNG ATHLETES

Other diseases of the heart that can lead to sudden death in young people include:

- Myocarditis (my-oh-car-DIE-tis), an acute inflammation of the heart muscle (usually due to a virus).
- Dilated cardiomyopathy, an enlargement of the heart for unknown reasons.
- Long QT syndrome and other electrical abnormalities of the heart which cause abnormal fast heart rhythms that can also run in families.
- Marfan syndrome, an inherited disorder that affects heart valves, walls of major arteries, eyes and the skeleton. It is generally seen in unusually tall athletes, especially if being tall is not common in other family members.

## Are there warning signs to watch for?

In more than a third of these sudden cardiac deaths, there were warning signs that were not reported or taken seriously. Warning signs are:

- Fainting, a seizure or convulsions during physical activity;
- Fainting or a seizure from emotional excitement, emotional distress or being startled;
- Dizziness or lightheadedness, especially during exertion;
- Chest pains, at rest or during exertion;

- Palpitations - awareness of the heart beating unusually (skipping, irregular or extra beats) during athletics or during cool down periods after athletic participation;
- Fatigue or tiring more quickly than peers; or
- Being unable to keep up with friends due to shortness of breath.

## What are the current recommendations for screening young athletes?

New Jersey requires all school athletes to be examined by their primary care physician ("medical home") or school physician at least once per year. The New Jersey Department of Education requires use of the specific Annual Athletic Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form.

This process begins with the parents and student-athletes answering questions about symptoms during exercise (such as chest pain, dizziness, fainting, palpitations or shortness of breath); and questions about family health history.

The primary healthcare provider needs to know if any family member died suddenly during physical activity or during a seizure. They also need to know if anyone in the family under the age of 50 had an unexplained sudden death such as drowning or car accidents. This information must be provided annually for each exam because it is so essential to identify those at risk for sudden cardiac death.

The required physical exam includes measurement of blood pressure and a careful listening examination of the heart, especially for murmurs and rhythm abnormalities. If there are no warning signs reported on the health history and no abnormalities discovered on exam, no further evaluation or testing is recommended.

## When should a student athlete see a heart specialist?

If the primary healthcare provider or school physician has concerns, a referral to a child heart specialist, a pediatric cardiologist, is recommended. This specialist will perform a more thorough evaluation, including an electrocardiogram (ECG), which is a graph of the electrical activity of the heart. An echocardiogram, which is an ultrasound test to allow for direct visualization of the heart structure, will likely also be done. The specialist may also order a treadmill exercise test and a monitor to enable a longer recording of the heart rhythm. None of the testing is invasive or uncomfortable.

## Can sudden cardiac death be prevented just through proper screening?

A proper evaluation should find most, but not all, conditions that would cause sudden death in the athlete. This is because some diseases are difficult to uncover and may only develop later in life. Others can develop following a normal screening evaluation, such as an infection of the heart muscle from a virus.

This is why screening evaluations and a review of the family health history need to be performed on a yearly basis by the athlete's primary healthcare provider. With proper screening and evaluation, most cases can be identified and prevented.

## Why have an AED on site during sporting events?

The only effective treatment for ventricular fibrillation is immediate use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). An AED can restore the heart back into a normal rhythm. An AED is also life-saving for ventricular fibrillation caused by a blow to the chest over the heart (commotio cordis).

Effective September 1, 2014, the New Jersey Department of Education requires that all public and nonpublic schools grades K through 12 shall:

- Have an AED available at every sports event (three minutes total time to reach and return with the AED);
- Have adequate personnel who are trained in AED use present at practices and games;
- Have coaches and athletic trainers trained in basic life support techniques (CPR); and
- Call 911 immediately while someone is retrieving the AED.

**Sudden Cardiac Death Pamphlet**  
**Sign-Off Sheet**

Name of School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Local School: \_\_\_\_\_

I/We acknowledge that we received and reviewed the Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes pamphlet.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# SPORTS-RELATED EYE INJURIES:

## AN EDUCATIONAL FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS



Participating in sports and recreational activities is an important part of a healthy, physically active lifestyle for children. Unfortunately, injuries can, and do, occur. Children are at particular risk for sustaining a sports-related eye injury and most of these injuries can be prevented. Every year, more than 30,000 children sustain serious sports-related eye injuries. Every 13 minutes, an emergency room in the United States treats a sports-related eye injury.<sup>1</sup> According to the National Eye Institute, the sports with the highest rate of eye injuries are: baseball/softball, ice hockey, racquet sports, and basketball, followed by fencing, lacrosse, paintball and boxing.

Thankfully, there are steps that parents can take to ensure their children's safety on the field, the court, or wherever they play or participate in sports and recreational activities.

### Prevention of Sports-Related Eye Injuries

Approximately 90% of sports-related eye injuries can be prevented with simple precautions, such as using protective eyewear.<sup>2</sup> **Each sport has a certain type of recommended protective eyewear, as determined by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). Protective eyewear should sit comfortably on the face. Poorly fitted equipment may be uncomfortable, and may not offer the best eye protection. Protective eyewear for sports includes, among other things, safety goggles and eye guards, and it should be made of polycarbonate lenses, a strong, shatterproof plastic. Polycarbonate lenses are much stronger than regular lenses.**<sup>3</sup>

Health care providers (HCP), including family physicians, ophthalmologists, optometrists, and others, play a critical role in advising students, parents and guardians about the proper use of protective eyewear. To find out what kind of eye protection is recommended, and permitted for your child's sport, visit the National Eye Institute at <http://www.nei.nih.gov/sports/findingprotection.asp>. Prevent Blindness America also offers tips for choosing and buying protective eyewear at <http://www.preventblindness.org/tips-buying-sports-eye-protectors>, and <http://www.preventblindness.org/recommended-sports-eye-protectors>.

It is recommended that all children participating in school sports or recreational sports wear protective eyewear. Parents and coaches need to make sure young athletes protect their eyes, and properly gear up for the game. Protective eyewear should be part of any uniform to help reduce the occurrence of sports-related eye injuries. Since many youth teams do not require eye protection, parents may need to ensure that their children wear safety glasses or goggles whenever they play sports. Parents can set a good example by wearing protective eyewear when they play sports.

<sup>1</sup> National Eye Institute, National Eye Health Education Program, Sports-Related Eye Injuries: What You Need to Know and Tips for Prevention, [www.nei.nih.gov/sports/pdf/sportsrelatedeyeinjuries.pdf](http://www.nei.nih.gov/sports/pdf/sportsrelatedeyeinjuries.pdf), December 26, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Rodriguez, Jorge O., D.O., and Lavina, Adrian M., M.D., Prevention and Treatment of Common Eye Injuries in Sports, <http://www.aafp.org/afp/2003/0401/p1481.html>, September 4, 2014; National Eye Health Education Program, Sports-Related Eye Injuries: What You Need to Know and Tips for Prevention, [www.nei.nih.gov/sports/pdf/sportsrelatedeyeinjuries.pdf](http://www.nei.nih.gov/sports/pdf/sportsrelatedeyeinjuries.pdf), December 26, 2013.

<sup>3</sup> Bedinghaus, Troy, O.D., Sports Eye Injuries, [http://vision.about.com/od/emergencyeyecare/a/Sports\\_Injuries.htm](http://vision.about.com/od/emergencyeyecare/a/Sports_Injuries.htm), December 27, 2013.

## Most Common Types of Eye Injuries



The most common types of eye injuries that can result from sports injuries are blunt injuries, corneal abrasions and penetrating injuries.

♦ **Blunt injuries:** Blunt injuries occur when the eye is suddenly compressed by impact from an object. Blunt injuries, often caused by tennis balls, racquets, fists or elbows, sometimes cause a black eye or hyphema (bleeding in front of the eye). More serious blunt injuries often break bones near the eye, and may sometimes seriously damage important eye structures and/or lead to vision loss.

♦ **Corneal abrasions:** Corneal abrasions are painful scrapes on the outside of the eye, or the cornea. Most corneal abrasions eventually heal on their

own, but a doctor can best assess the extent of the abrasion, and may prescribe medication to help control the pain. The most common cause of a sports-related corneal abrasion is being poked in the eye by a finger.

♦ **Penetrating injuries:** Penetrating injuries are caused by a foreign object piercing the eye. Penetrating injuries are very serious, and often result in severe damage to the eye. These injuries often occur when eyeglasses break while they are being worn. Penetrating injuries must be treated quickly in order to preserve vision.<sup>4</sup>

- Pain when looking up and/or down, or difficulty seeing;
- Tenderness;
- Sunken eye;
- Double vision;
- Severe eyelid and facial swelling;
- Difficulty tracking;

## Signs or Symptoms of an Eye Injury



- The eye has an unusual pupil size or shape;
- Blood in the clear part of the eye;
- Numbness of the upper cheek and gum; and/or
- Severe redness around the white part of the eye.

## What to do if a Sports-Related Eye Injury Occurs



If a child sustains an eye injury, it is recommended that he/she receive immediate treatment from a licensed HCP (e.g., eye doctor) to reduce the risk of serious damage, including blindness. It is also recommended that the child, along with his/her parent or guardian, seek guidance from the HCP regarding the appropriate amount of time to wait before returning to sports competition or practice after sustaining an eye injury. The school nurse and the child's teachers should also be notified when a child sustains an eye injury. A parent or guardian should also provide the school nurse with a physician's note detailing the nature of the eye injury, any diagnosis, medical orders for

the return to school, as well as any prescription(s) and/or treatment(s) necessary to promote healing, and the safe resumption of normal activities, including sports and recreational activities.

## Return to Play and Sports

According to the American Family Physician Journal, there are several guidelines that should be followed when students return to play after sustaining an eye injury. For



example, students who have sustained significant ocular injury should receive a full examination and clearance by an ophthalmologist or optometrist. In addition, students should not return to play until the period of time recommended by their HCP has elapsed. For more

minor eye injuries, the athletic trainer may determine that

it is safe for a student to resume play based on the nature of the injury, and how the student feels. No matter what degree of eye injury is sustained, it is recommended that students wear protective eyewear when returning to play and immediately report any concerns with their vision to their coach and/or the athletic trainer.

**Additional information on eye safety can be found at <http://isee.nei.nih.gov> and <http://www.nei.nih.gov/sports>.**

<sup>4</sup>Bedinghaus, Troy, O.D., Sports Eye Injuries, [http://vision.about.com/od/emergencyeyecare/a/Sports\\_Injuries.htm](http://vision.about.com/od/emergencyeyecare/a/Sports_Injuries.htm), December 27, 2013.