

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL HISTORY FORM



Note: Complete and sign this form (with your parents if younger than 18) before your appointment.

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

Date of examination: _____ Sport(s): _____

Sex assigned at birth (F, M, or intersex): _____ How do you identify your gender? (F, M, or other): _____

List past and current medical conditions. _____

Have you ever had surgery? If yes, list all past surgical procedures. _____

Medicines and supplements: List all current prescriptions, over-the-counter medicines, and supplements (herbal and nutritional). _____

Do you have any allergies? If yes, please list all your allergies (ie. Medicines, pollens, food, stinging insects). _____

Are your required vaccinations current? _____

Patient Health Questionnaire Version 4 (PHQ-4)

Overall, during the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems? (Circle Response.)

| | Not at all | Several Days | Over half the days | Nearly every day |
|---|------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Not being able to stop or control worrying | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Little interest or pleasure in doing things | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

(A sum of ≥ 3 is considered positive on neither subscale [questions 1 and 2, or questions 3 and 4] for screening purposes.)

| GENERAL QUESTIONS (Explain "Yes" answers at the end of this form. Circle questions if you don't know the answer.) | Yes | No | HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU (CONTINUED) | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|--|-----|----|
| 1. Do you have any concerns that you would like to discuss with your provider? | | | 9. Do you get light-headed or feel shorter of breath than your friends during exercise? | | |
| 2. Has a provider ever denied or restricted your participation in sports for any reason? | | | 10. Have you ever had a seizure? | | |
| 3. Do you have any ongoing medical issues or recent illness? | | | HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY | Yes | No |
| HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU | Yes | No | 11. Has any family member or relative died of heart problems or had an unexpected or unexplained sudden death before age 35 years (including drowning or unexplained car crash)? | | |
| 4. Have you ever passed out or nearly passed out during or after exercise? | | | 12. Does anyone in your family have a genetic heart problem such as hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM), Marfan syndrome, arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC), long QT syndrome (LQTS), short QT syndrome (SQTS), Brugada syndrome, or catecholaminergic poly-morphic ventricular tachycardia (CPVT)? | | |
| 5. Have you ever had discomfort, pain, tightness, or pressure in your chest during exercise? | | | 13. Has anyone in your family had a pacemaker or an implanted defibrillator before age 35? | | |
| 6. Does your heart ever race, flutter in your chest, or skip beats (irregular beats) during exercise? | | | | | |
| 7. Has a doctor ever told you that you have any heart problems? | | | | | |
| 8. Has a doctor ever requested a test for your heart? For example, electrocardiography (ECG) or echocardiography. | | | | | |

| BONE AND JOINT QUESTIONS | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| 14. Have you ever had a stress fracture or an injury to a bone, muscle, ligament, joint, or tendon that caused you to miss a practice or game? | | |
| 15. Do you have a bone, muscle, ligament, or joint injury that bothers you? | | |
| MEDICAL QUESTIONS | Yes | No |
| 16. Do you cough, wheeze, or have difficulty breathing during or after exercise? | | |
| 17. Are you missing a kidney, an eye, a testicle (males), your spleen, or any other organ? | | |
| 18. Do you have groin or testicle pain or a painful bulge or hernia in the groin area? | | |
| 19. Do you have any recurring skin rashes or rashes that come and go, including herpes or methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)? | | |
| 20. Have you had a concussion or head injury that caused confusion, a prolonged headache, or memory problems? | | |
| 21. Have you ever had numbness, tingling, weakness in your arms or legs, or been unable to move your arms or legs after being hit or falling? | | |
| 22. Have you ever become ill while exercising in the heat? | | |
| 23. Do you or does someone in your family have sickle cell trait or disease? | | |
| 24. Have you ever had or do you have any problems with your eyes or vision? | | |

| MEDICAL QUESTIONS (CONTINUED) | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| 25. Do you worry about your weight? | | |
| 26. Are you trying to or has anyone recommended that you gain or lose weight? | | |
| 27. Are you on a special diet or do you avoid certain types of food and food groups? | | |
| 28. Have you ever had an eating disorder? | | |
| FEMALES ONLY | Yes | No |
| 29. Have you ever had a menstrual period? | | |
| 30. How old were you when you had your first menstrual period? | | |
| 31. When was your most recent menstrual period? | | |
| 32. How many periods have you had in the past 12 months? | | |

Explain "Yes" answers here.

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

Signature of athlete: _____

Signature of parent or guardian: _____

Date: _____

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PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

(Physical examination must be performed on or after April 1 by a health care professional holding an unlimited license to practice medicine, a nurse practitioner or a physician assistant to be valid for the following school year.) Rule 3-10

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ IHSAA Member School _____

PHYSICIAN REMINDERS

1. 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 last 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 use any other appearance/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?



2. 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? | Y | N |
| MEDICAL | | | | | | | NORMAL | ABNORMAL FINDINGS | |
| Appearance | | | | | | | | | |
| • Marfan stigmata (kyphoscoliosis, high-arched palate, pectus excavatum, arachnodactyly, arm span > height, hyperlaxity, myopia, MVP, aortic insufficiency) | | | | | | | | | |
| Eyes/ears/nose/throat | | | | | | | | | |
| • Pupils equal | | | | | | | | | |
| • Hearing | | | | | | | | | |
| Lymphnodes | | | | | | | | | |
| Heart | | | | | | | | | |
| • Murmurs (auscultation standing, supine, +/- Valsalva) | | | | | | | | | |
| • Location of point of maximal impulse (PMI) | | | | | | | | | |
| Pulses | | | | | | | | | |
| • Simultaneous femoral and radial pulses | | | | | | | | | |
| Lungs | | | | | | | | | |
| Abdomen | | | | | | | | | |
| Genitourinary (males only) | | | | | | | | | |
| Skin | | | | | | | | | |
| • MSV, lesions suggestive of MRSA, tinea corporis | | | | | | | | | |
| Neurologic | | | | | | | | | |
| MUSCULOSKELETAL | | | | | | | | | |
| | NORMAL | ABNORMAL FINDINGS | | | | NORMAL | ABNORMAL FINDINGS | | |
| Neck | | | | | Knee | | | | |
| Back | | | | | Leg/ankle | | | | |
| Shoulder/arm | | | | | Foot/toes | | | | |
| Elbow/forearm | | | | | Functional | | | | |
| Wrist/hand/fingers | | | | | • Duck-walk, single leg hop | | | | |
| Hip/thigh | | | | | | | | | |

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

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, 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 Health Care Professional (print/type) _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____ License # _____

Signature of Health Care Professional _____, MD, DO, PA, or NP (Circle one)



INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY RULES (Grades 9 through 12)

ATTENTION ATHLETE: Your school is a member of the IHSAA and follows established rules. To be eligible to represent your school in interschool athletics, you:

1. must be a regular bona fide student in good standing in the school you represent; must have enrolled not later than the fifteenth day of the current semester.
2. must have completed 10 separate days of organized practice in said sport under the direct supervision of the high school coaching staff preceding date of participation in interschool contests. (Excluding Girls Golf – See Rule 101)
3. must have received passing grades at the end of their last grading period in school in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects (or the equivalent) that a student can take and must be currently enrolled in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects (or the equivalent) that a student can take. Semester grades take precedence.
 - ... unless you are entering the ninth grade for the first time.
 - ... unless you are transferring from a school district or territory with a corresponding bona fide move on the part of your parents.
 - ... unless you are a ward of a court; you are an orphan, you reside with a parent, your former school closed, your former school is not accredited by the state accrediting agency in the state where the school is located, your transfer was pursuant to school board mandate, you attended in error a wrong school, you transferred from a correctional school, you are emancipated, you are a foreign exchange student under an approved CSIET program. You must have been eligible from the school from which you transferred.
4. must not have reached your twentieth birthday prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport.
5. must have been enrolled in your present high school last semester or at a junior high school from which your high school receives its students . . .
 - ... unless you are entering the ninth grade for the first time.
 - ... unless you are transferring from a school district or territory with a corresponding bona fide move on the part of your parents.
 - ... unless you are a ward of a court; you are an orphan, you reside with a parent, your former school closed, your former school is not accredited by the state accrediting agency in the state where the school is located, your transfer was pursuant to school board mandate, you attended in error a wrong school, you transferred from a correctional school, you are emancipated, you are a foreign exchange student under an approved CSIET program. You must have been eligible from the school from which you transferred.
6. must not have been enrolled in more than eight consecutive semesters beginning with grade 9.
7. must be an amateur (have not participated under an assumed name, have not accepted money or merchandise directly or indirectly for athletic participation, have not accepted awards, gifts, or honors from colleges or their alumni, have not signed a professional contract).
8. must have had a physical examination between April 1 and your first practice and filed with your principal your completed Consent and Release Certificate.
9. must not have transferred from one school to another for athletic reasons as a result of undue influence or persuasion by any person or group.
10. must not have received in recognition of your athletic ability, any award not approved by your principal or the IHSAA.
11. must not accept awards in the form of merchandise, meals, cash, etc.
12. must not participate in an athletic contest during the IHSAA authorized contest season for that sport as an individual or on any team other than your school team. (See Rule 15-1a) (Exception for outstanding student-athlete – See Rule 15-1b)
13. must not reflect discredit upon your school nor create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in your school.
14. students with remaining eligibility must not participate in tryouts or demonstrations of athletic ability in that sport as a prospective post-secondary school student-athlete. Graduates should refer to college rules and regulations before participating.
15. must not participate with a student enrolled below grade 9.
16. must not, while on a grade 9 junior high team, participate with or against a student enrolled in grade 11 or 12.
17. must, if absent five or more days due to illness or injury, present to your principal a written verification from a physician licensed to practice medicine, stating you may participate again. (See Rule 3-11 and 9-14.)
18. must not participate in camps, clinics or schools during the IHSAA authorized contest season. Consult your high school principal for regulations regarding out-of-season and summer.
19. girls shall not be permitted to participate in an IHSAA tournament program for boys where there is an IHSAA tournament program for girls in that sport in which they can qualify as a girls tournament entrant.

This is only a brief summary of the eligibility rules.

You may access the IHSAA Eligibility Rules (By-Laws) at www.ihsaa.org

Please contact your school officials for further information and before participating outside your school.

(Consent & Release Certificate - on back or next page)

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION
CONSENT & RELEASE CERTIFICATE



I. STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RELEASE CERTIFICATE

- A. I have read the IHSAA Eligibility Rules (*next page or on back*) and know of no reason why I am not eligible to represent my school in athletic competition.
- B. If accepted as a representative, I agree to follow the rules and abide by the decisions of my school and the IHSAA.
- C. I know that athletic participation is a privilege. I know of the risks involved in athletic participation, understand that serious injury, and even death, is possible in such participation, and choose to accept such risks. I voluntarily accept any and all responsibility for my own safety and welfare while participating in athletics, with full understanding of the risks involved, and agree to release and hold harmless my school, the schools involved and the IHSAA of and from any and all responsibility and liability, including any from their own negligence, for any injury or claim resulting from such athletic participation and agree to take no legal action against my school, the schools involved or the IHSAA because of any accident or mishap involving my athletic participation.
- D. I consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of courts in Marion County, Indiana for all claims and disputes between and among the IHSAA and me, including but not limited to any claims or disputes involving injury, eligibility or rule violation.
- E. I give the IHSAA and its assigns, licensees and legal representatives the irrevocable right to use my picture or image and any sound recording of me, in all forms and media and in all manners, for any lawful purposes.

I HAVE READ THIS CAREFULLY AND KNOW IT CONTAINS A RELEASE PROVISION. (to be signed by student)

Date: _____ Student Signature: (X) _____

Printed: _____

II. PARENT/GUARDIAN/EMANCIPATED STUDENT CONSENT, ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RELEASE CERTIFICATE

- A. Undersigned, a parent of a student, a guardian of a student or an emancipated student, hereby gives consent for the student to participate in the following interschool sports **not marked out**:
Boys Sports: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Track, Wrestling.
Girls Sports: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Gymnastics, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, Volleyball.
- B. Undersigned understands that participation may necessitate an early dismissal from classes.
- C. Undersigned consents to the disclosure, by the student's school, to the IHSAA of all requested, detailed financial (athletic or otherwise), scholastic and attendance records of such school concerning the student.
- D. Undersigned knows of and acknowledges that the student knows of the risks involved in athletic participation, understands that serious injury, and even death, is possible in such participation and chooses to accept any and all responsibility for the student's safety and welfare while participating in athletics. With full understanding of the risks involved, undersigned releases and holds harmless the student's school, the schools involved and the IHSAA of and from any and all responsibility and liability, including any from their own negligence, for any injury or claim resulting from such athletic participation and agrees to take no legal action against the IHSAA or the schools involved because of any accident or mishap involving the student's athletic participation.
- E. Undersigned consents to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of courts in Marion County, Indiana for all claims and disputes between and among the IHSAA and me or the student, including but not limited to any claims or disputes involving injury, eligibility, or rule violation.
- F. Undersigned gives the IHSAA and its assigns, licensees and legal representatives the irrevocable right to use any picture or image or sound recording of the student in all forms and media and in all manners, for any lawful purposes.
- G. Please check the appropriate space:

| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The student has school student accident insurance. | <input type="checkbox"/> The student has football insurance through school. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The student has adequate family insurance coverage. | <input type="checkbox"/> The student does not have insurance. |

Company: _____ Policy Number: _____

I HAVE READ THIS CAREFULLY AND KNOW IT CONTAINS A RELEASE PROVISION.

(to be completed and signed by all parents/guardians, emancipated students; where divorce or separation, parent with legal custody must sign)

Date: _____ Parent/Guardian/Emancipated Student Signature: (X) _____

Printed: _____

Date: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: (X) _____

Printed: _____

CONSENT & RELEASE CERTIFICATE
 Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.
 9150 North Meridian St., P.O. Box 40650
 Indianapolis, IN 46240-0650

File In Office of the Principal
 Separate Form Required for Each School Year

CONCUSSION and SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE FORM FOR PARENTS AND STUDENT ATHLETES

Student Athlete's Name (Please Print): _____

Sport Participating In (Current and Potential): _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

IC 20-34-7 and IC 20-34-8 require schools to distribute information sheets to inform and educate student athletes and their parents on the nature and risk of concussion, head injury and sudden cardiac arrest to student athletes, including the risks of continuing to play after concussion or head injury. These laws require that each year, before beginning practice for an interscholastic sport, a student athlete and the student athlete's parents must be given an information sheet, and both must sign and return a form acknowledging receipt of the information to the student athlete's coach.

IC 20-34-7 states that an interscholastic student athlete, in grades 5-12, who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game, shall be removed from play at the time of injury and may not return to play until the student athlete has received a written clearance from a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and head injuries, and at least twenty-four hours have passed since the injury occurred.

IC 20-34-8 states that a student athlete who is suspected of experiencing symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest shall be removed from play and may not return to play until the coach has received verbal permission from a parent or legal guardian for the student athlete to return to play. Within twenty-four hours, this verbal permission must be replaced by a written statement from the parent or guardian.

Parent/Guardian - please read the attached fact sheets regarding concussion and sudden cardiac arrest and ensure that your student athlete has also received and read these fact sheets. After reading these fact sheets, please ensure that you and your student athlete sign this form, and have your student athlete return this form to his/her coach.

As a student athlete, I have received and read both of the fact sheets regarding concussion and sudden cardiac arrest. I understand the nature and risk of concussion and head injury to student athletes, including the risks of continuing to play after concussion or head injury, and the symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest.

(Signature of Student Athlete)

(Date)

I, as the parent or legal guardian of the above named student, have received and read both of the fact sheets regarding concussion and sudden cardiac arrest. I understand the nature and risk of concussion and head injury to student athletes, including the risks of continuing to play after concussion or head injury, and the symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest.

(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

(Date)

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

A Fact Sheet for Parents

FACTS

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is a rare, but tragic event that claims the lives of approximately 7,000 children each year in the United States, according to the American Heart Association. SCA is not a heart attack. It is an abnormality in the heart's electrical system that abruptly stops the heartbeat. SCA affects all students, in all sports or activities, and in all age levels. The majority of activity-related cardiac arrests are due to congenital (inherited) heart defects. However, SCA may also occur after a person experiences an illness which has caused an inflammation to the heart or after a direct blow to the chest.

WARNING SIGNS

Possible warning signs of SCA include:

- Fainting
- Difficulty Breathing
- Chest Discomfort or Pain
- Dizziness
- Abnormal Racing Heart Rate

ASSESSING RISK

Health care providers may use several tests to help detect risk factors for SCA. One such test is an electrocardiogram (ECG). An ECG is a simple, painless test that detects and records the heart's electrical activity. It is used to detect heart problems and monitor a person's heart health. There are no serious risks to a person having an ECG test. ECG's are able to detect a majority of heart conditions more effectively than a physical exam and health history alone.

What are the risks of practicing or playing after experiencing warning symptoms?

There are risks associated with continuing to practice or play after experiencing warning symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest. When the heart stops, so does blood flow to the brain and other vital organs. Death or permanent brain damage follows in just a few minutes. Most people who experience SCA die from it. However, when SCA is witnessed and an onsite automatic defibrillator (AED) is deployed in a timely manner, survival rates approach 50%.

How can I help prevent my child from experiencing SCA?

Daily physical activity, proper nutrition, and adequate sleep are all important aspects of life-long health. Additionally, parents can assist students prevent death from SCA by:

- Ensuring your child knows about any family history of SCA (onset of heart disease in a family member before the age of 50 or a sudden, unexplained death at an early age)
- Ensuring your child has a thorough pre-season screening exam prior to participation in an organized athletic activity
- Asking if your school and the site of competition have automated external defibrillators (AED's) that are close by and properly maintained
- Asking if your child's coach is CPR/AED certified
- Becoming CPR/AED certified yourself
- Ensuring your child is not using any non-prescribed stimulants or performance enhancing drugs
- Being aware that the inappropriate use of prescription medications, energy drinks, or vaping increase risk
- Encouraging your child to be honest and report symptoms of chest discomfort, unusual shortness of breath, racing or irregular heartbeat, or feeling faint

What should I do if I think my child has warning signs that may lead to SCA?

1. Tell your child's coach or band leader about any previous events or family history
2. Keep your child out of play or band
3. Seek medical attention right away

What are the survival steps for sudden cardiac arrest?

- Immediate activation of EMS
- Early CPR with an emphasis on chest compressions
- Immediate use of the onsite AED
- Integrated post-cardiac arrest care

A FACT SHEET FOR Parents



CDC HEADS UP
SAFE BRAIN. STRONGER FUTURE.



What is a concussion?

A concussion is a type of brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works. A concussion is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head. Concussions can also occur from a blow to the body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. Even what seems to be a mild bump to the head can be serious. Concussions can have a more serious effect on a young, developing brain and need to be addressed correctly.

What are the signs and symptoms of a concussion?

You can't see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after an injury or may not appear or be noticed until hours or days after the injury. It is important to watch for changes in how your child or teen is acting or feeling, if symptoms are getting worse, or if s/he just "doesn't feel right." Most concussions occur without loss of consciousness.

If your child or teen reports one or more of the symptoms of concussion listed below, or if you notice the signs or symptoms yourself, seek medical attention right away. Children and teens are among those at greatest risk for concussion.

Signs & Symptoms of a Concussion

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about events
- Answers questions slowly
- Repeats questions
- Can't recall events *prior* to hit, bump, or fall
- Can't recall events *after* hit, bump, or fall
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Forgets class schedule or assignments

Symptoms Reported by Your Child or Teen

| Thinking/Remembering | Emotional |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty thinking clearly • Difficulty concentrating or remembering • Feeling more slowed down • Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irritable • Sad • More emotional than usual • Nervous |
| Physical | Sleep* |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache or "pressure" in head • Nausea or vomiting • Balance problems or dizziness • Fatigue or feeling tired • Blurry or double vision • Sensitivity to light or noise • Numbness or tingling • Does not "feel right" | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drowsy • Sleeps <i>less</i> than usual • Sleeps <i>more</i> than usual <p><i>*Only ask about sleep symptoms if the injury occurred on a prior day.</i></p> |

To download this fact sheet in Spanish, please visit: www.cdc.gov/HEADSUP. Para obtener una copia electrónica de esta hoja de información en español, por favor visite: www.cdc.gov/HEADSUP

January 2021



Danger Signs

Be alert for symptoms that worsen over time. Your child or teen should be seen in an emergency department right away if she or he has one or more of these danger signs:

- One pupil (the black part in the middle of the eye) larger than the other
- Drowsiness or cannot be awakened
- A headache that gets worse and does not go away
- Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination
- Repeated vomiting or nausea
- Slurred speech
- Convulsions or seizures
- Difficulty recognizing people or places
- Increasing confusion, restlessness, or agitation
- Unusual behavior
- Loss of consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously)

Children and teens with a suspected concussion should NEVER return to sports or recreation activities on the same day the injured occurred.

They should delay returning to their activities until a healthcare provider experienced in evaluating for concussion says it's OK to return to play. This means, until permitted, not returning to:

- Physical Education (PE) class
- Sports practices or games
- Physical activity at recess

How can I help my child return to school safely after a concussion?

Most children can return to school within a few days. Help your child or teen get needed support when returning to school after a concussion. Talk with your child's teachers, school nurse, coach, speech-language pathologist, or counselor about your child's concussion and symptoms.

Your child's or teen's healthcare provider can use CDC's Letter to Schools to provide strategies to help the school set up any needed supports.

As your child's symptoms decrease, the extra help or support can be removed gradually. Children and teens who return to school after a concussion may need to:

- Take rest breaks as needed
- Spend fewer hours at school
- Be given more time to take tests or complete assignments
- Receive help with schoolwork
- Reduce time spent reading, writing, or on the computer
- Sit out of physical activities, such as recess, PE, and sports until approved by a healthcare provider
- Complete fewer assignments
- Avoid noisy and over-stimulating environments



To learn more, go to www.cdc.gov/HEADSUP or call 1.800.CDC.INFO

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