

## MCFI Information Sheet

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Your school is currently implementing an innovative program for evaluating and treating mild brain injuries (mTBI), more commonly known as a concussion. In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student athletes, your school has partnered with the Maine Concussion Management Initiative (MCFI) to acquire a software tool called ImPACT™ (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). ImPACT™ is a computerized exam developed by concussion experts at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and used in many professional, collegiate, and high school programs across the country to assist with the diagnosis and management of mTBI's. Neurocognitive tests, such as ImPACT™ are fast becoming the "gold standard" in recognizing and managing mTBI's. Additional information can be found at [www.impacttest.com](http://www.impacttest.com).

Your school is asking students to take the computerized exam before beginning the sports season. The test is set up in a "video-game" format and takes about 20-25 minutes to complete. The ImPACT™ test is a pre-season physical of the brain. It records information such as memory, reaction time, speed, and concentration, but it is NOT an IQ test. The ImPACT™ test is non-invasive and poses no risk to your child. Taking an ImPACT™ baseline test may help your child understand that range of cognitive problems that can happen from head injuries, and may also assist in the diagnosis of a concussion should a head injury occur and a follow-up test be taken. Taking this test may help researchers understand more about concussion effects, severity, and recovery.

If your child suffers a head injury and a concussion is suspected, your child will be referred to a physician or clinician for an evaluation. The physician or clinician may recommend that your child take the post-injury ImPACT™ test. Your child's baseline (pre-season) and post-injury test data, if any, will be maintained on a secure server by ImPACT™. Your child's test data will only be available to his/her physician or clinician, except as described below.

Your child's test data may be available to persons other than the physician or clinician evaluating your child, as follows:

- The physician or clinician evaluating your child may choose to make your child's test data available to other healthcare providers who are being consulted regarding the treatment of your child.

- Your child's de-identified data may be utilized by the Maine Concussion Management Initiative at Colby College for research purposes. *If you do not want your child's de-identified ImPACT™ test scores used for research purposes, contact Paul D. Berkner, D.O., Colby College at [pberkner@colby.edu](mailto:pberkner@colby.edu)*

Your child's health and safety are at the forefront of the student athletic experience, and we are excited to work with your school to implement this program. Participation in this project is voluntary, and you or your child may withdraw consent or discontinue participation at any time. Your child's or your refusal to participate will not result in any penalty.

Sincerely,  
Maine Concussion Management Initiative

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For any further questions contact Paul D. Berkner, D.O., Colby College at [pberkner@colby.edu](mailto:pberkner@colby.edu)

Updated 5-16-2014