

ImPACT Information

Wesleyan University has implemented an innovative program for our student-athletes. This program assists our team physicians and certified athletic trainers in evaluating and treating head injuries (e.g., concussion). In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student-athletes, we utilize a software tool called ImPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). ImPACT is a computerized neuropsychological exam utilized in many professional, collegiate, and high school sports programs across the country to successfully diagnose and manage concussions. The use of this type of testing has become a standard of care in managing sports-related concussions. If an athlete is believed to have suffered a head injury during competition, ImPACT is used to help determine the severity of head injury and when the injury has fully healed.

The computerized exam is initially given to collision and contact sport athletes prior to the season, as part of their medical clearance procedure. This non-invasive test is set up in “video-game” type format and takes about 20-30 minutes to complete. It is simple, and many athletes actually enjoy the challenge of taking the test. Essentially, the ImPACT test is a preseason physical of the brain that tracks information such as memory, reaction time, processing speed, and concentration. It is not an “IQ” test.

Wesleyan student-athletes participating in collision or contact sports will take a “baseline” ImPACT test one time during their collegiate careers, typically prior to the start of the first year season. If a concussion is suspected, the athlete will be required to re-take the test. The baseline and post-injury test data will be evaluated by the Wesleyan Sports Medicine staff and the treating physician, and used to enable these health care professionals to determine when it is safe and appropriate for the injured student-athlete to return to activity.

We are excited to have another tool to utilize in managing sports-related concussions and preventing potential brain damage that can occur with multiple concussions. Please contact a member of the Wesleyan University Athletic Injury Care staff if you have any questions. If you would like more information about ImPACT, visit the ImPACT web site at: www.impacttest.com.

ImPACT Testing Consent Form

I have read the attached information about ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing), and understand its contents. I have been given an opportunity to ask questions and all questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

I understand that my testing information is considered confidential medical information, and have been informed that the program has internal security limiting access to my medical information. I also understand that the database file is encrypted on the network, in order to protect my medical information.

I agree to participate in the ImPACT testing program at Wesleyan University.

Athlete name (print neatly): _____

Sport: _____

Signature of Athlete: _____

Date: _____