



Friday, November 7, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Youth Sports Concussion and Head Injury Return to Play Guidelines Committee

246 N. High Street, Columbus
8th Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

At 10:00 a.m. Director Hodges called the meeting to order and began by thanking everyone in the audience for attending. All Committee members were present.

Richard Hodges, Director of Health (present)
Andrew N. Russman, D.O (present)
Kim G. Rothermel, M.D. (present)
Brian S. Wilson, D.C (present)
William A. Ramsey, D.C (present)
Eric D. Griffin, D.C (present)
Jason P. Dapore, D.O (present)

Director Hodges stated that as a committee, they are open to hearing from anyone who would like to testify. Director Hodges called for an approval of the meeting minutes of October 10, 2014. The meeting minutes were approved.

Director Hodges then introduced Dr. Andrew Wapner, the Ohio Department of Health's Interim Bureau Chief in the Office of Healthy Ohio, to provide a general overview of the committee's charge and to share national data on concussion laws:

Committee's Charge is to Establish Guidelines on the:

- Diagnosis and treatment of concussions and head injuries;
- Conditions under which an athlete may be granted clearance to return to practice/competition;
- Minimum education requirements necessary to qualify a physician or licensed health care professional to assess and clear an athlete for return to practice or competition.

The following three questions are proposed for the committee and the licensing boards to consider in the development of Return-to-Play guidelines:

- (1) What should be the minimum clinical training required for a provider to identify, treat and manage TBI in children?
- (2) Do your licensees have the baseline knowledge and clinical experience to identify, treat and manage TBI?

(3) Should there be minimum continuing education requirements for a provider to be able to clear a child to return to play post-TBI?

Dr. Wapner's presentation showed that most sport concussion laws include three action steps:

- **Educate Coaches, Parents, and Athletes:** Inform and educate coaches, athletes, and their parents and guardians about concussion through training and/or a concussion information sheet.
- **Remove Athlete from Play:** An athlete who is believed to have a concussion is to be removed from play right away.
- **Obtain Permission to Return to Play:** An athlete can only return to play or practice after at least 24 hours *and* with permission from a health care professional.

States with laws that contain return to play requirements:

- 47 states and D.C. have a return to play requirement and all require clearance by a health professional
- 13 states and D.C. do not require the health professional be trained in TBI Management
- 10 states require clearance by a medical doctor.

Following Dr. Wapner's presentation, Director Hodges moved to witness testimony:

Brian Hertz, Dennison University, representing an athletic trainer licensed under ORC Chapter 4755, provided testimony.

Dr. Thomas Waters, Cleveland Clinic, representing an emergency medicine physician, provided testimony.

Dr. Bradley Raetzke, Ohio American College of Emergency Physicians, (ACEP), representing a board certified emergency physician who actively practices emergency medicine and is actively involved in emergency medical services, provided testimony.

Dr. Kelly Roush, Holzer Sports Medicine Department, Gallipolis, representing a certified chiropractic sports physician and athletic trainer, provided testimony.

Dr. Michael Tunning, Ohio State Chiropractic Association, representing a chiropractor, provided testimony.

Scott Elchert, Athletic Director and head Men's Varsity Basketball Coach at Jackson Center High School, representing a youth sports organization, provided testimony.

Dr. Thomas Hospel, Medical Director, Dublin Jerome High School, representing a sports medicine physician, provided testimony.

Dr. Christopher Bailey, University Hospitals, Case Medical Center Neurological Institute, representing a neuropsychologist, provided testimony.

Dr. Brian Wilson, Committee member, representing the State Chiropractic Board, shared a letter from Dr. Mark Christensen, *National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE)*, Director of Testing to Kelly Caudill, Executive

Director, Ohio State Chiropractic Board.

Dr. Thomas Pommering, Division Chief and Medical Director for Sports Medicine, Nationwide Children's, representing a physician who actively practices in the field of sports medicine, provided testimony.

Ryan Goodman, Physical Therapist for the Columbus Blue Jackets, representing a physical therapist licensed under Chapter 4755 of the ORC, provided testimony.

Written-only testimony was submitted by:

- **Mr. John DeWitt, representing a physical therapist licensed under ORC Chapter 4755,** on behalf of the Ohio Physical Therapy Association
- **Dr. Mary L. Solomon, representing a pediatric sports medicine physician,** on behalf of University Hospitals of Cleveland

NOTE: Copies of the full testimonies and other Committee materials can be found on the ODH website at: <http://www.healthy.ohio.gov/vipp/concussion.aspx>

Lance Himes, ODH's General Counsel, clarified language in HB 143 that references who may make return to play decisions. This clarification was based on questions raised by the Committee regarding the law's use of the term "in consultation with." Mr. Himes explained there is no strict definition of the term. Mr. Himes also reminded the Committee that it operates under Ohio's *Open Public Meeting Laws* and that each Committee member must remain mindful of what that entails.

A request from the committee was made to have a nurse testify at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned @ 2:02 pm.

The next meeting will be December 18, 2014, 10:00 am – 3:30 pm.