May 2016

Risk Factors for Concussion in Collegiate NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Soccer Athletes

Isaac S. Beckler
Cedarville University, ibeckler@cedarville.edu

Michael S. Weller
Cedarville University, mweller@cedarville.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/jsmahs
Part of the Sports Sciences Commons

Recommended Citation
DOI: 10.25035/jsmahs.02.01.17
Available at: http://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/jsmahs/vol2/iss1/17

This Undergraduate Student Abstract is brought to you for free and open access by the Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies at ScholarWorks@BGSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Sports Medicine and Allied Health Sciences: Official Journal of the Ohio Athletic Trainers Association by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks@BGSU.
RISK FACTORS FOR CONCUSSION IN COLLEGIATE NCAA DIVISION II MEN’S AND WOMEN’S SOCCER ATHLETES

Objective: To identify risk factors for concussion among men's and women's college soccer athletes, and determine the likelihood of concussion based on those risk factors.

Design and Setting: A short electronic survey was sent out to NCAA Division II universities in Ohio. Survey questions included demographics, soccer-related questions, and concussion-related questions.

Participants: Men's and women's soccer athletes from division II universities in Ohio participating in varsity or junior varsity soccer at their respective universities who were at least 18 years of age.

Intervention: An online survey.

Main Outcome Measurement: Number of concussions sustained.

Results: Of the concussions sustained while playing soccer, 29.4% of female participants sustaining a concussion compared to only 17.4% male participants. Concussions occurred during a competitive match in 8 of the 9 concussions compared to during a practice. There were 2.8 concussions per 100 years for strikers as well as midfielders, while no concussions occurred while playing defender. Varsity athletes showed a high incidence of concussions (33.3%) compared to JV/Reserve athletes in which there were no concussions while playing soccer (p = 0.018). Among players with a concussion history, 5 of the 12 (41.7%) sustained multiple concussions. The most common MOI was contact with another player’s body (36.8%). Of the 40 respondents, there were only 3 players who wore mouth guards, and 1 who wore headgear. There was no significant difference between protective equipment worn and a diagnosis of concussion (p = .157).

Conclusions: Being a varsity athlete, playing in a game, having a previous history of concussion, and playing as a striker or midfielder were all risk factors for concussion.

Keywords: concussion, soccer, risk factors.