



Date: March 4, 2024

Regarding: **Closing of MCMI and Discontinued School Access to Concussion Testing Materials**

Dear current and past members,

This letter is official notice that after 15 years the Maine Concussion Management Initiative will cease operations on June 1, 2024. We have reached our goal of improving the identification and management of childhood concussions in Maine, and while work remains to be done, major steps toward improving concussion management have been accomplished. It is now time for others to continue the work of improving the safety of youth sports and identifying ways to improve the outcomes for children who sustain a concussion.

Below, we will address how MCMI's closure might affect your school's concussion management practices (i.e., concussion testing options, HIT website, and concussion education resources).

### **Concussion Testing Options for Next Year**

MCMI will no longer coordinate or administer concussion testing for schools, but we are able to provide information about how to set up your school's own, independent testing accounts and procedures to start preparticipation assessments this summer (summer 2024).

MCMI has contacted two companies (ImPACT and SWAY) and confirmed that current (2023-2024) MCMI members are eligible for discounted pricing. The quoted prices provided by the companies as well as contact information for representatives of each company are listed below. The companies are listed in alphabetical order, and we encourage you to review each company's testing platform and pricing to make the best selection for your school. Please note, these two companies are not the only options available for concussion testing. MCMI has worked with these two companies but listing them here should not be taken as an endorsement.

#### **ImPACT Concussion Testing**

- Contact: Josh Gyurke; [joshg@impacttest.com](mailto:joshg@impacttest.com)
- Testing Packages: They are offering further discounts to schools that are MCMI members for the next school year (2024-25).
  - Package 1: (\$275) 75 Baselines + 10 post injury + unlimited QuickTest
  - Package 2: (\$485) 200 Baselines+ 20 post injury + unlimited QuickTest
  - Package 3: (\$730) 400 Baselines + 40 post injury + unlimited QuickTest
  - Package 4: (\$974) 600 Baselines + 60 post injury + unlimited QuickTest
  - Package 5: (\$1,447) 1,000 Baselines + 100 post injury + unlimited QuickTest

#### **Sway Medical Concussion Testing**

- Contact: Douglas Tauchen; [doug.tauchen@swaymedical.com](mailto:doug.tauchen@swaymedical.com)
- Sway Medical is also offering a free trial for this spring semester if you would like to try Sway before you buy your packages next school year. This trial comes with training and education.
- Testing Packages: They are honoring our current prices for MCMI members for the next school year (2024-25).

- Package 1: (\$275) X-small - 75 profiles
- Package 2: (\$550) Small - 150 profiles
- Package 3: (\$800) Medium - 250 profiles
- Package 4: (\$1050) Large - 350 profiles

## Head Injury Tracking (HIT) Website

If you used MCMI's HIT website to document and track concussion occurrences for reporting to the Maine Department of Education, your school will need to develop an alternative injury-tracking procedure and report directly to Emily Poland at the end of each school year. These changes will take effect starting after June 1. Any data reported to the HIT Website this school year, before June 1, 2024, will be submitted to the Maine Department of Education, and you will not need to submit it separately. Starting next school year, the Department of Education will be asking for data in the School Health Annual Report, which is submitted by each school administrative unit through the school nurses. Finalized reporting questions for the 2023-24 school year will not be complete until August 2023, however, the current proposed concussion questions are listed below.

- What is the total number of concussions diagnosed by a provider?
- Of these, how many were injuries from:
  - Organized school-related athletic event \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other school-related injury (recess, PE, classroom) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Outside of school \_\_\_\_\_

Questions can be directed to [Emily.Poland@maine.gov](mailto:Emily.Poland@maine.gov)

You can read more about concussion reporting requirements from the Department of Education [on the Maine DOE's website](#).

## Concussion Education

Numerous concussion education and management resources are freely available online that you might find helpful. Some examples are linked below (and listed in no particular order).

- [Ontario Living Concussion Guidelines for Concussion Care](#)
- [Ontario Living Guidelines for Pediatric Concussion Care](#)
- [Maine.gov Department of Education webpage for concussion education](#)
- [Concussion in Sport Group concussion consensus document \(2023\)](#)
- [Information about the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool-6 \(SCAT6\)](#)
- [Information about the Sport Concussion Office Assessment Tool-6 \(SCOAT6\)](#)
- [The Virginia Concussion Initiative \(See what other states are doing for concussion\)](#)
- [The CDC's HEADS UP Online Training for Coaches](#)
- [The CDC's HEADS UP Online Training for Parents](#)
- [The CDC's HEADS UP Online Training for School Nurses](#)
- [The CDC's HEADS UP Online Training for Athletic Trainers](#)
- [The National Federation of State High School Associations \(NFHS\) Online Training for Coaches, Parents, Administrators, and Officials](#)
- [NFHS's Concussion Course for Student Athletes](#)

- [Guidelines for Massachusetts Schools for Returning to School After Concussion](#)

We want to thank all the organizations (Maine Principals Association, Maine Athletic Training Association, Maine Department of Education, Maine School Nurses Association, and the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital), athletic trainers, school nurses, and students at Colby College and the University of New England, who collectively made MCMI's success possible over the years. We would like to specifically thank Dr. Bill Heinz, Dr. Joe Atkins, Jan Salis, Hannah Willihan, and Lynn Kippax for their dedication and commitment to this project. Additionally, we thank Dr. Paul Berkner for founding MCMI and advocating for the cause, as well as research partners such as Dr. Ross Zafonte, Dr. Grant Iverson, Dr. Douglas Terry, Dr. Nathan Cook, Dr. Rebekah Mannix, Dr. William Meehan, Dr. Dawn Comstock, Dr. Greg Marchetti, and Dr. Bruce Maxwell. Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to the health and safety of the children of Maine.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Katie Stephenson*

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