

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 22 March 2013
TO: Member Union, CEO's
CC: Member Unions, GM Community Rugby & Affiliate Unions
FROM: Dr Warren McDonald, Chief Medical Officer - Australian Rugby Union
SUBJECT: Pitch Side Concussion Assessment (PSCA) Protocols

Dear All

The PSCA has been approved by the IRB for use in the controlled Professional Rugby environment for **sanctioned professional competitions and matches only**. It is not intended or designed to be used in domestic matches at this time.

Under NO circumstances in domestic rugby competitions and/or matches in Australia shall a Pitch Side Concussion Assessment (PSCA) Protocol be implemented.

ie **THERE IS NO HEAD BIN IN DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS**

The use of the PSCA process requires doctors who have been specifically trained in the process. Only doctors trained in the process can make the decisions required by the process. Other personnel including doctors not trained in the process, physiotherapists, trainers, coaches or officials **CAN NOT** make decisions regarding this process.

The concussion guidelines for domestic competitions remain unchanged. **If a Player is suspected of having concussion that Player must be removed from play and must not resume playing in that match or on the same day.**

If a medical practitioner is not available on-site the Player must be referred to a medical practitioner for diagnosis and comprehensive assessment as soon as possible.

Further information on concussion management guidelines, training and resources will continued to be made available at www.rugby.com.au/concussion.



Dr Warren McDonald
Chief Medical Officer
Australian Rugby Union