

EXPERT CONCUSSION PANEL DOCUMENTS

1. COVER LETTER

Date:

Dear

You have been referred to the AC Expert Concussion Panel for the assessment of a complex concussion.

The Panel of independent medical professionals with expertise in concussion has been assembled to review your case and provide a detailed, expert opinion regarding key clinical questions related to your management.

The clinical information (including history, investigations and any previous specialist opinions) and important questions to be addressed have been provided to the Panel by your team doctor.

Some general information is provided in the attached document, but if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

2. PLAYER INFORMATION SHEET

AUSTRALIAN CRICKET EXPERT CONCUSSION PANEL PLAYER INFORMATION SHEET

Background

The management of concussion can be challenging in some cases, especially those with multiple concussions or prolonged symptoms. The role of the Panel is to streamline the management in concussion by establishing an independent panel of experts who jointly assess each case and produce a consensus opinion.

The Panel's priority is to provide you with the best medical advice available, and your medical welfare is the Panel's primary goal.

Process

The Panel may be made up of medical professionals from different fields (e.g. Neurology, Sports Medicine, Neurosurgery, Rehabilitation Medicine, Neuropsychology and Physiotherapy), all with specific expertise in the assessment and management of concussion.

Referral to the Panel can be made by any doctor including a State Medical Officer or the CA CMO. The Panel members will be chosen as a combination of treating health professionals (already involved in your case) and independent medical professionals (to provide a fresh assessment).

A Panel chair will be appointed, and the Panel will be convened as soon as possible at a time when all the selected Panel members are available. You will be notified of the date, time and venue of the Panel once it has been organised.

The Panel will consider all the information submitted to it, including the referral letter from your team doctor outlining your concussion and related medical history and key clinical questions, any imaging performed, and any other correspondence from other external referrals.

You will spend time with the Panel to provide a detailed history and be examined. There is nothing else that you specifically need to do, apart from be open and honest with the Panel for each of the questions asked.

The player should expect to spend 60 to 90 minutes with the examiners.

You may bring a support person with you to the Panel (such as a partner, parent, manager, etc).

Depending on availability of Panel members, this process can be performed Face to Face, Online or a hybrid of both.

The Panel will consider all the information gathered before and during the consultation. The Panel may provide some brief guidance to you before you leave the Panel, but a detailed Panel report will be prepared and with the player's permission, a copy will be sent to your team doctor and the CA CMO, once all the information has been put together and considered. This may take up to two weeks after the Panel appointment.

The player should discuss the Panel's recommendations with your team doctor.

The Panel's report and documentation will form part of your medical record and, as with any medical record, you have a legal right to access its' contents.

Confidentiality

All information, written, electronic and verbal, obtained in/from the Panel process will be managed with the strictest confidence, as per relevant Health Records and Privacy Acts.

Additional support

Having a concussion which is not following normal patterns of recovery can be very challenging on multiple levels. When combined with the added stress of a Panel review and seemingly uncertain future, this can often negatively affect mood and result in significant stress, anxiety and depression.

The Australian Cricket medical and mental health practitioner network is available to support you.

Responsibilities

Player responsibilities

The player is expected to be honest with the examiners, provide all the relevant information, and not deliberately withhold any information.

Examiners' responsibilities

The examiners are expected to treat the player professionally and honestly, in strict adherence to the laws governing medical practice in Australia, and to treat all documents and findings in the strictest confidence, in compliance with the Health Records Act and the Australian Privacy Act.

3. PLAYER CONSENT FORM

I _____

(Insert name)

have read, understood, and had the opportunity to ask questions regarding this player information sheet, and give my consent to proceeding with the process of engaging with the Expert Concussion Panel.

Player signature

/ /

Date signed