

20 September 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Kolten Abbott and I am the Research Coordinator for the Adolescent Concussion Research Program being conducted at Fowler Kennedy Sport Medicine Clinic, London Health Sciences Centre and Western University.

I am emailing you as we are inviting adolescent athletes (**12-18 years**) to participate in our current investigation aimed at improving concussion diagnosis. Briefly, as I am sure you are aware concussions not only disproportionately affect youth, but currently clinicians lack an objective biomarker of a concussive injury. This is of great concern as clinical decisions remain subjective, which can lead to earlier-than-optimal return to work, school or play. Therefore, the goal of our research program is to work towards identifying a clinically relevant biomarker in order to improve diagnosis, clinical decision-making and the safety of concussed adolescents in our community.

In order to evaluate potential biomarkers, we need to characterize the inherent variability of the proposed measure as well as define age-specific norms. Therefore, we are providing local athletes in the London area an opportunity to be "healthy-control" participants in this study. As control participants, individuals would be required to come to Western University on two separate occasions (**each testing session ~1.5 hours in duration**) and complete a series of brain, heart and emotional health measures. Aside from providing normative values, participants will be completing a research-based baseline concussion assessment, which results can be used to compare against, should a concussion occur. *Participants will be compensated for any parking costs occurred during testing*

If participation in this investigation is of interest to your athlete, please contact me at either the phone number or email listed below.

Sincerely,



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