Concussion in Sport Australia
Concussion management flow chart – on field
(for medical practitioners)

Athlete with suspected concussion

- Loss of consciousness
- Seizure or tonic posturing
- Confusion, disorientation
- Memory impairment

Signs of concussion:
- Balance disturbance/motor incoordination
- Dazed, blank/vacant stare
- Behaviour change, not themselves

NO

Athlete concussed
Immediate and permanent removal from sport

Evidence of structural intracranial pathology or spinal injury

SCAT 5
Neurological examination
Use of video assessment if available (professional sport)

SCAT 5
Neurological examination

Monitor and reassess as appropriate

Signs of neurological deterioration:
- Worsening headache
- Emotionally labile
- Altered level of consciousness
- Vomiting
- Focal neurological signs

Immediate referral to emergency department

YES

NO

Remove for sideline concussion assessment

Evidence of concussion

No evidence of concussion

Permanent removal from sport

- Athlete may be returned to sport but must be closely monitored for evolving signs of concussion or more serious head injury
- Reassess at half time/full time
- If any signs of concussion develop, the athlete must be permanently removed from sport