

# Brain Waves

Quarterly Practice Brief  
for NCDPI TBI Approved  
Providers

December 2021

## Need TBI materials? Borrow some from your regional site!

What sort of materials can you borrow?

- Assessment kits
- Professional resources

Where will the regional material sites be?

- Southwest - Kannapolis City
- Piedmont Triad - Winston Salem
- North Central & Northeast - Carrboro
- Mountain - Canton
- Southeast - TBD ([Let us know if you are interested in being a regional site manager](#))

How will the requests for materials work? [Go ahead and give it a try!](#) You will:

- Select the regional site closest to you
- Select the material(s) needed
- Enter your contact information
- Once submitted, the regional site manager will receive an email with the request, and coordinate a pick-up time with you

How long can you keep the materials?

- 30 days - with the option to renew



*Tentative*  
**SAVE THE DATE!**

**2022 TBI Institute**

**March 9, 2022**  
9:00am - 4:00pm

**Location: TBD (but in person!)**

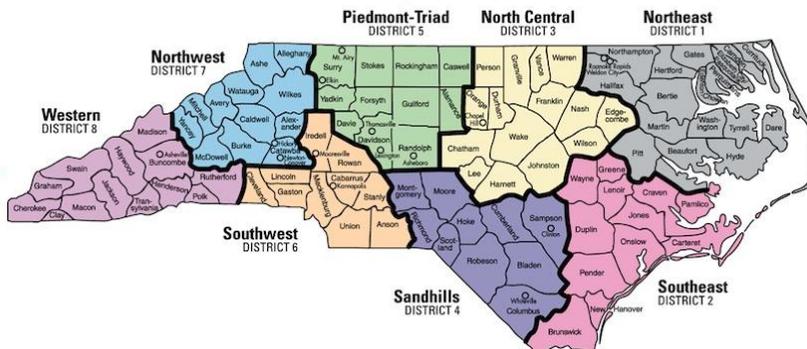
## Call for presentations!

We'd love to learn from your experience! Please consider [submitting a proposal](#) for a 70 minute professional learning session for the 2022 TBI Institute!

Your submission should address any of [these topic areas](#), but especially:

- Case studies with unique or complex situations
- Connecting families to community resources
- Return to Learn implementation
- Monitoring treatment effectiveness

**Proposal deadline = January 17, 2022**



### Communities of Practice (CoP)

Use the links below to access your CoP. You can submit a question/topic on the forum or create an "event" to get live support from your colleagues via Google Hangout.

[North Central/Northeast](#)

[Northwest/Western](#)

[Piedmont-Triad/Southwest](#)

[Sandhill/Southeast](#)

# Evaluating the effectiveness of traumatic brain injury state laws among high school athletes

Arakkal, Alan T; Barón, Anna E; Lamb, Molly M; Fields, Sarah K; Dawn, Comstock R. *Injury Epidemiology*; Heideberg Vol. 7, Iss. 1, (Dec 2020). DOI:10.1186/s40621-020-00241-6

Approximately 8 million high school athletes participate in over 60 different school sports each year in the US. Undiagnosed concussions may place athletes at risk for subsequent brain injuries if they return to play (RTP) before they are adequately recovered. Since 2009, most states have passed laws to address the concussions occurring in youth sports activities. This study's objective was to evaluate the effectiveness of state level TBI laws by examining longitudinal trends in incident and recurrent concussion rates.

Data from the 2005/06 through 2017/18 academic years was obtained from the National High School Sports Related Injury Surveillance Study (High School RIO), a large national prospective internet-based sports injury surveillance system. The study dataset contained 16,670 concussions: 15,153 (90.9%) incident and 1517 (9.1%) recurrent.

Results indicate that

- State TBI laws may be associated with a greater, albeit statistically non-significant, post-law impact on recurrent compared to incident concussions.
- Return to Play (RTP) components of the laws are effective as a secondary rather than a primary concussion intervention.
- Specifying the healthcare provider for RTP clearance may be associated with a greater impact on reducing the risk of recurrent concussions.
- States should allow multiple categories of healthcare providers to provide RTP clearance, instead of restricting the requirements to physicians only.
- Primary intervention efforts should be applied alongside state TBI laws to attenuate the risk of both incident and recurrent concussions

**Got Questions?**  
Get Answers in the updated  
**[TBI FAQ document!](#)**



## Does your district use Pearson's Q-Interactive Digital Assessment Library?

You may have access to the following assessment tools often used for TBI evaluations:

### Digital Assessment Library (Standard)

- Brown EF/A (*Executive Function/Attention*)
- NEPSY-II (*Selected Subtests*)
- Beery VMI
- Vineland Adaptive Scales
- D-REF
- D-KEFS
- BASC-3
- WISC-V, WAIS-IV, WPPSI-IV

### Digital Assessment Library (Plus)

- WRAML-3 (Possible digital option upon official Q-Interactive release)

[Click here to learn more about Q-Interactive and DALs/DALs+ subscription options.](#)



[Click here to help us improve the Return to Learn materials available](#)

## Know better, do better

- What does concussion prevention look like in your community?
- How do you support concussion prevention efforts in your PSU?
- What role do you play in concussion management?

***Interested in continuing this conversation?  
Reach out to your community of practice!***