

Exploring clinical decision-making in pediatric concussion and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

Dear Potential Participant,

We are very interested in learning how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected healthcare professionals with experience in pediatric concussion management.

I am writing to let you know about an opportunity to participate in a research study exploring clinical decision-making, choice of resource utilization, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on pediatric concussion treatment. **We are looking for physiotherapists, occupational therapists, physicians, and chiropractors who have experience treating at least one pediatric concussion patient in the last 12 months.**

We are asking for clinicians to participate in a **30-minute qualitative interview** exploring how they make decisions when treating children with concussion, and their perspectives on relevant clinical practice guidelines and policies. We are also interested in understanding how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted pediatric concussion management. This study is being conducted by Arman Grewal at the University of Calgary, under the supervision of Dr. Jennifer Zwicker, at the School of Public Policy for the requirements of the Capstone Research Project in the Master of Public Policy program. The University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (*REB19-2077*) has approved this research study.

The Canadian Minister of Health has been mandated to implement a Pan-Canadian Concussion Strategy. Evaluating clinician perspectives about current concussion policies and guidelines is necessary to guide the development of a national concussion strategy. Understanding the experience of clinicians involved in remote management of concussion during the COVID-19 pandemic will also assist with development of telehealth policies and initiatives as part of a Canadian concussion strategy.

Your participation in this project would greatly enhance our understanding of clinical decision-making in pediatric concussion and changes in practice related to recent guidelines and policies. Through qualitative interviews, we intend to accomplish the following specific goals: (1) Explore factors that guide your clinical decisions ; (2) Understand your perspectives about recent clinical practice guidelines and resulting changes in practice; (3) Explore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on your practice, including the provision of remote telehealth/telerehab services. All participants will be offered a summary of results once the study is concluded.

If you would like additional information about this study, please email Arman Grewal at arman.grewal@ucalgary.ca.

Thank you again for considering this research opportunity.

Sincerely,

Arman Grewal, **BSc (Honours)**

Master of Public Policy Candidate

School of Public Policy | University of Calgary