

CONCUSSION

Signs & Symptoms



A concussion is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head. Concussions can also occur from a fall or blow to the body that causes the head to move rapidly back and forth. Even what seems to be a mild bump to the head can be serious. Be alert for **any** of the following signs and symptoms.

Signs Observed by School Professionals

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about events
- Answers questions slowly
- Repeats questions
- Can't recall events *prior* to hit, bump, or fall
- Can't recall events *after* hit, bump, or fall
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Forgets class schedule or assignments

Symptoms Reported by the Student

THINKING/REMEMBERING

- Difficulty thinking clearly
- Difficulty concentrating or remembering
- Feeling more slowed down
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy

PHYSICAL

- Headache or "pressure" in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Fatigue or feeling tired
- Blurry or double vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Numbness or tingling
- Does not "feel right"

EMOTIONAL

- Irritable
- Sad
- More emotional than usual
- Nervous

SLEEP*

- Drowsy
- Sleeps *less* than usual
- Sleeps *more* than usual
- Has trouble falling asleep

**Only ask about sleep symptoms if the injury occurred on a prior day.*

What can school professionals do?

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Know your Concussion ABCs:

A—Assess the situation

B—Be alert for signs and symptoms

C—Contact a healthcare professional

For more information, visit
www.cdc.gov/HEADSUP

