Why You Need an Athletic Trainer for Concussion Care

SPECIALIZED TRAINING
Athletic trainers receive specific training in concussion management.

IMMEDIATE ACTION
Athletic trainers are typically the first healthcare provider to evaluate the athlete for a possible concussion on the sideline.

OBJECTIVE TOOLSET
Athletic trainers are trained to use a variety of objective tools to diagnose and manage concussions: neurocognitive testing, balance testing, VOMS, clinical examination.

EDUCATION
Athletic trainers provide important concussion education to student athletes, parents, coaches and school staff.

STANDARD OF CARE
Schools with athletic trainers are at least 4 times more likely to recognize and diagnose concussions than schools without them.

RELIABLE PROTOCOLS
50% of concussed athletes in high schools with low athletic trainer availability underwent a return-to-play protocol versus 100% at schools with high athletic trainer availability.

CURRENT
Athletic trainers complete annual continuing education to ensure they’re up to date on best practices in concussion care.

SAFETY
50% of schools currently have athletic training coverage. If you don’t, you’re leaving athletes at risk.

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Mike Hopper, MS, ATC
Bishop Lynch High School

"If you can’t afford an athletic trainer, you can’t afford athletics."