

Aylin Kahraman

*The Impact of Education on Student Athletes Regarding Concussions*

Concussions can result in serious damage to the brain, yet some student athletes do not seek proper treatment for concussions or concussion symptoms. This begs the question: what effect does education have on student athlete's opinions, attitudes, and behaviors regarding concussions? This study of 104 student athletes set out to answer this question through surveying. The students surveyed were a mixture of mixture of boys and girls between or at the ages of 13 to 18. The students were split into two groups. One group (the experimental group) read a short informational passage about concussions before taking the survey, and the other group (the control group) did not read the passage. Both groups took the same 12 question survey asking them to rate, on a scale of 1-5, how strongly they agreed or disagreed with various statements or scenarios regarding concussions. Overall, the averages for both the experimental group and the control group were relatively similar. On average, 58% of the control group chose safer options, 22% of the group chose riskier options, and 20% chose neither safe nor risky options. As for the experimental group, 50% of the group chose safer options, 26% of the group chose riskier options, and 24% of the group chose neither safe nor risky options. Thus, education, in the form of a written, information passage, does not have an impact on student athletes' opinions, attitudes, and behaviors regarding concussions.