

## Description of Services

### Community Concussion Technical and Research Support Coordinator - Contractor

New Zealand Rugby (NZR) is looking for a technical and research support coordinator to promote the administration, implementation, and evaluation of our concussion strategy within community rugby. The Community Concussion Management Pathway (CMP) focuses on education, awareness, healthcare provider engagement and the use of an app-based baseline concussion assessment and management for community players.

The role is a 6-month contractor position and there is flexibility in location for the right applicant.

#### **Key tasks**

- Coordination and implementation of the CMP in Otago, Hawkes Bay, North Harbour and Wairarapa-Bush Rugby Unions with both Secondary School and Senior Club rugby teams.
- Project administration support for the NZR Research Team.
- Develop stakeholder relationships including players, coaches, team medical staff, healthcare providers, sports coordinators, provincial union staff and technology companies involved in the NZR CMP administration.
- Support the implementation of the technology solution involved in the CMP. This includes working with technology companies and planning for education, communication, and technology support for NZR research assistants and the pilot Provincial Unions.
- Assist with data collection, entry, analysis, and report generation. This includes assessing the impact of an educational session on player's knowledge and attitudes towards concussion reporting.
- Assist with evaluation of the CMP (i.e., app usage and concussion pathway) through monitoring the players journey through their concussion recovery.
- Assist with the publication and dissemination of results.
- To explore the utility of a NZR Concussion App in improving and streamlining concussion management using post-season guided interviews of coaches/team managers and/or physiotherapists.
- Post-season evaluate and revise the CMP within specific target groups: a) females ages 13-18 years of age, b) high school adolescents ages 16-18 years of age (NZ 1st XV teams) from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds, c) children ages 9-12 years, d) parents and e) university age male and female players.

- Evaluate a custom designed on-line NZR Concussion Portal for medical doctors that: (a) provides information and guidance around concussion diagnosis, (b) access to players' baseline concussion assessments, (c) an online version of the SCAT5, and (d) NZR Graduated Return to Play Guidelines (GRTP) using google web-based analytics (web site visits, duration of visit, repeat use of web site).

### **Skills, experience and requirements**

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Project administration experience.
- Information technology experience.
- Ability to work independently.
- Positive individual who takes initiative and can manage change.
- Tech-savvy and ability to trouble-shoot and problem solve technical issues on the spot.
- Ability to keep detailed organised records.
- Experience working with large data bases (Excel), data entry and attention to detail.
- Experience in research and report writing.
- Knowledge and experience with statistical analysis.
- Previous experience drafting manuscripts.
- Previous publishing experience.
- High degree of emotional maturity and able to proactively manage a range of situations.
- Personal access to and advanced knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- Use of a personal email, confident on email systems and good working knowledge of internet and other forms of new technology.
- Access to use of a working cell phone.
- Valid driver's license and access to a vehicle.
- Evidence of Covid-19 vaccination status.

### **Preferred**

- Experience working with youth.
- Experience working with volunteers.
- Experience and/or knowledge of rugby.

### **Who you will work with**

This project is being overseen by NZR Research Scientist Dr. Danielle Salmon whose background has focused on injury prevention. We have also established an academic supervisory team whose varying expertise will help support different aspects of the project and is a collaborative effort between NZR, ACC, Auckland University of Technology and the University of Otago.