

Red flags – requiring urgent medical assessment

If any of the following ‘red flags’ are reported or observed, then the player should receive urgent medical assessment from an appropriate Healthcare Professional onsite or in a hospital Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department using emergency ambulance transfer if necessary:

- Any loss of consciousness because of the injury
- Deteriorating consciousness (more drowsy)
- Amnesia (no memory) for events before or after the injury
- Increasing confusion or irritability
- Unusual behaviour change
- Any new neurological deficit e.g.
 - Difficulties with understanding, speaking, reading or writing
 - Decreased sensation
 - Loss of balance
 - Weakness
 - Double vision
- Seizure/convulsion or limb twitching or lying rigid/ motionless due to muscle spasm
- Severe or increasing headache
- Repeated vomiting
- Severe neck pain
- Any suspicion of a skull fracture (e.g. cut, bruise, swelling, severe pain at site of injury)
- Previous history of brain surgery or bleeding disorder
- Current ‘blood-thinning’ therapy
- Current drug or alcohol intoxication

