An observational study exploring outcomes following concussion to optimise recovery

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Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	Curtin University
Enrollment	200 participants

Plain Language Summary

A concussion — also called a mild traumatic brain injury — is one of the most common injuries seen in emergency departments. While most people recover fully within a few weeks, a significant number go on to experience persistent symptoms like headaches, memory problems, dizziness, and mood changes for months afterward. Identifying who is at risk of a slow or incomplete recovery is very difficult in the early stages.

This study is recruiting people who have just been diagnosed with a concussion in a hospital emergency department. In the first few days after injury, participants complete questionnaires, have blood and saliva samples taken, undergo brain MRI scanning, and complete clinical assessments. Over the following year, they are contacted by phone at regular intervals to track how their symptoms and quality of life are changing. By combining early biological markers, brain imaging, and clinical information, researchers hope to build a model that can predict who needs more intensive follow-up care.

You may be eligible if you are between 14 and 65 years old, have been diagnosed with a concussion by a doctor within the last 12 hours, and can attend a follow-up assessment within 4 days. People with existing serious neurological conditions, significant psychiatric illness, or who are pregnant would not be eligible.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (6)

- i) Clinical diagnosis of concussion made by a medical practitioner
- ii) Aged 14 – 65 years
- iii) Able to be enrolled within 12 hours of head injury with symptoms attributable to that injury
- iv) Post-Traumatic Amnesia of less than 24 hours
- v) No significant findings on acute brain CT scan, or CT scan not required

... and 1 more (see full listing online)

Exclusion (22)

- i) Glasgow Coma Scale <14 at the time of initial assessment
- ii) Significant history of pre-existing conditions that would interfere with outcome assessment and follow-up (eg. Substance abuse/alcohol abuse, homelessness, terminal illness)
- iii) Significant debilitating pre-existing diagnosed mental health disorder that would interfere with neuropsychological and possibly blood or saliva biomarker outcome measures or follow up (eg schizophrenia, bipolar disorder)
- iv) Significant pre-existing neurological condition which may interfere with ability to complete outcome measures or follow up (eg. Stroke, dementia)
- v) Pre-existing cognitive impairment such as intellectual disability which may interfere with ability to undertake neuropsychological examination

... and 17 more (see full listing online)

Locations (3 total)

Royal Perth Hospital - Perth, QLD,WA,VIC, Australia

The Alfred - Melbourne, QLD,WA,VIC, Australia
Royal Brisbane & Womens Hospital - Herston, QLD,WA,VIC, Australia