Concussion: It's More Than Just a Bump on the Head Debra Blanchard, MS, RN, CNRN

Behavioral Objectives/Outline

- III. Evaluation/diagnosis/initial management of concussion
 - A. Imaging
 - 1. Current guidelines for CT Use
 - 2. What we don't see
 - B. Rule out/manage other injuries
- 1. Recognize concussion (mild traumatic brain injury) based on mechanism of injury, post-injury history and presenting signs/symptoms
 - I. Definition of Concussion (MTBI)
 - II. Epidemiology of Concussion
 - A. Incidence
 - B. Mechanism of injury
 - C. Immediate effects
- 2. Facilitate appropriate evaluation and acute management of patient with concussion
 - C.Symptom management pain, dizziness, nausea
- 3. Provide effective post concussion education to patients/families
 - IV. Immediate interventions
 - A. Rest physical and mental
 - **B.Post- concussion symptom recognition**

Physical

Cognitive

Emotional/behavioral

C.Symptom management

Limiting stimulation

Gradual return to activity - work, school

D.Preventing further injury

Out of sports/gym

Avoiding other "risky" activities

E.Medical follow-up

Primary care provider

ED return for worsening symptoms

Specialty concussion care if symptoms linger

- 4. Incorporate current research related to concussion into nursing practice
 - V. Recent research/guidelines
 - A. Sports concussion

Injury 1. prevention

2. Sideline evaluation

3. Return to play
B. Imaging guidelines for pediatrics
C. Long-term effects of concussion