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Pediatric Concussion Clinic: A Needs Assessment

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Methods

Design. This is a quality improvement (QI) project. Quality improvement is designed to bring about positive changes quickly through systematic, data-guided activities. QI projects are typically conducted to bring about change in a specific setting (Gregory, 2015). This project is specifically seeking to improve the access to quality care for pediatric patients in central and southern Illinois who have sustained a concussion.

Participants. The study participants include pediatric providers from an academic institution in central Illinois who care for pediatric patients who have sustained a concussion.

Materials. An anonymous survey, conducted through Survey Monkey, will be used to assess providers' opinions of the need to start a concussion clinic, providers' confidence in treating pediatric patients who have sustained a concussion, providers' willingness to refer patients who have sustained a concussion or who have post-concussion syndrome, and providers' general knowledge about pediatric concussions and post-concussion syndrome.

Procedure. A voice-over PowerPoint presentation will be given to the pediatric primary care providers at the central Illinois academic institution. The presentation will discuss concussions, in general, and the benefits of concussion clinics. The providers that attend the presentation are referring providers and will not be directly involved with the future concussion clinic if a need is established from this needs assessment. A pre- and post-education survey will be given to the providers. Initially, the plan was to establish the concussion clinic as part of the project; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the pediatric concussion population significantly decreased. Therefore, only a needs assessment was completed for the project.