

30 June 2021

Anthony Jordan

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Tēnā koe Anthony

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-011672**

Thank you for your email of 10 June 2021, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *Estimate date for release of new and updated Concussion/Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Guidelines*
2. *Sources thus far used to assist in compiling updated guidelines*
3. *What specific dedication of updated Guidelines will be used for Concussion/Mild Traumatic Brain Injury*

**Interpretation of your request**

We have interpreted your request as referring to the upcoming concussion primary care pathway pilot, which focuses on treatment for concussion and traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

**Concussion primary care pathway pilot**

The concussion primary care pathway pilot (the pilot) is estimated to go live before August 2021. The pilot is solely focussed on concussion and TBI client care and aims to offer consistent levels of client experience and education when seeking treatment for a concussion or TBI. It will also support the client's General Practitioner with appropriate guidance to manage client needs safely in primary care, while directly referring those with more complex needs to appropriate care and reducing administrative delays.

Multiple best practice sources have been used to build the pathway. This has included a range of concussion assessments used in general practice and NZ Rugby, several New Zealand and international based concussion studies, and the guidance of an expert advisory group with a range of experience in the concussion/TBI sector.

The pilot will bring a new approach to the management and treatment of claims for concussion and mild TBIs. It aims to better understand and manage the referral from primary to secondary care, facilitating co-operation between clinicians and other groups in the delivery of client care, enabling health care professionals to monitor and improve health care practices for concussion and TBI clients.

**If you have any questions**

If you have any questions, you can email me at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz)

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sasha Wood

**Manager Official Information Act Services**

Government Engagement & Support