



DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY Plain Language Statement

Introduction to the Research Study:

“Knowledge, Attitudes and Perceptions towards Concussion in Non-Medically Trained GAA Personnel” (KapCing-P Study)

DCU, School of Health and Human Performance

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Details of What Involvement Will Require:

The aim of this research project is to identify the current knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of coaches, players and referees towards concussion within the GAA. This information will form the basis for future education and targeted approaches to improve concussion management within Gaelic Games in a systematic, effective and personalised way. This will ultimately lead to a healthier and safer environment for all Gaelic Games participants. Participation in this research will involve completing an online questionnaire that will take approximately 8-10 minutes. The questionnaire contains six sections including; 1) Basic information, 2) Past Personal Concussion History, 3) Concussion Knowledge, 4) Concussion Attitudes, 5) Return to Play/Rehabilitation after concussion, 6) Concussion Education

Confidentiality and Use of Data:

Confidentiality and anonymity is of utmost importance in this study. You will anonymously complete an online survey that **will not** request any identifying personal information including your name, date of birth, address or GAA club. If you complete the hard copy of the questionnaire, the research team will transfer these results directly to a Microsoft Excel sheet, which will be password locked. The hardcopy of the questionnaire will be stored in a locked cabinet in the principle researchers office in the School of Health and Human Performance(DCU) where it will be shredded 12 months after completion of the research. It must be noted that protection of this data is subject to legal limitations. It is possible for data to be subject to subpoena, freedom of information claim or mandated reporting by some professions.

Benefits (Direct or Indirect) to Participants

You will have the opportunity to highlight what type of concussion education you would like to receive, which could form the basis for future education within the GAA. Also, by completing the research you will be assisting in the formation of a safer playing environment for all GAA personnel.

Potential Risks to Participants

There are no serious potential risks to you. It should be noted that the questionnaire involves multiple questions addressing your knowledge and attitude towards concussion. These questions include information regarding your own past experiences with concussion. If you have any concerns regarding a misdiagnosis or mismanagement of a concussion you should arrange an appointment with your General Practitioner (GP) to discuss these concerns.

Voluntary Involvement:

Involvement within this research project is purely voluntary. You are free to withdraw from the study at any stage without prejudice or reason. There will be no penalty enforced on any participants wishing to withdraw prior to the study being completed.

Other Relevant Information:

Your involvement/non-involvement in this research project will in no way affect any on-going relationship with Dublin City University.

Deceleration of Conflicting Interests:

The current research project is funded by the Health Research Board of Ireland (www.hrb.ie)

If participants have concerns about this study and wish to contact an independent person please contact:

The Secretary,
Dublin City University Research Ethics Committee,
c/o Research and Innovation Support,
Dublin City University, Dublin 9.
Tel 01-7008000,
E-mail: rec@dcu.ie