



Allegheny Health Network is currently implementing an innovative program for athletes. Current guidelines call for a multi-faceted approach to diagnosing and treating mild traumatic brain injury (concussion) through assessment of symptoms, balance, reaction time, memory, processing speed, and neuromotor function. Sway is a comprehensive program on a mobile platform that is compatible with both Apple and Android devices. Sway will assist the Certified Athletic Trainer and Team Physician in the appropriate management of concussions. Athletes often do not understand the potential consequences of concussion and minimize or deny the symptoms so that they can return to play. As a result, repeated concussions, from returning to sports too early, can cause symptoms to have a cumulative effect. Due to such concerns, the management of concussions needs to be individualized and comprehensive.

To better manage concussions sustained by athletes, Allegheny Health Network is offering the SWAY Platform as a baseline and post injury testing system. Sway has FDA approval as a Class II medical device. The test is administered using the Sway medical app and a cell phone or tablet to obtain a baseline test at the beginning of the sports season and again if an injury occurs to determine return to play. Sway is a comprehensive evaluation that is non-invasive and looks at balance, cognitive, reaction time, memory, and neuromotor function. It takes approximately 12-15 minutes to complete. Upon completion of the baseline, the results are securely stored. If an injury occurs, the athletes will be re-tested and compared to their baseline as they heal to determine when it is safe to return the athlete to activity.

If you have any questions, please contact the licensed Athletic trainer at your high school.