

Early Morning Sessions are split between:

Foundation for First Time Participants

- Concussion 101 for School Staff and Medical Providers
- Concussion's Impact on School: Strategies and Adjustments in the First 3 Weeks
- Time to Retire? Factors in a teen's decision to retire from contact sports

Advanced Case Studies for Participants from the last conference or for concussion professionals

- Presentation of Case Study #1: A case from Gaylord Center for Concussion Care
- Presentation of Case Study #2: A case from Dr. Ryan and Kim Zemo, Social Worker

Late Morning and Afternoon Sessions for All Participants

- Existing Models of Concussion "Return to School" Plans in the USA and CT
- The Timing of Return to Learn (RTL), "Buffalo Protocol," Return To Play in Student Athletes?
- Beyond the Diagnosis: Eyes, Balance and Gait
- Post Concussion Syndrome: Depression, Isolation and Identity Loss, CTE Fact & Fiction
- Post Concussion Syndrome: Academic Modifications After One Month, Home Life Support
- New Research on "Does Concussion Education Work" and Concussion Resources
- The Past: State of CT Concussion Law and Development of Module #15
- The Present: CIAC's Concussion Policy and Connecticut Law

Continuing Education:

- > Gaylord Hospital is an Approved Provider of Continuing Nursing Education by The Connecticut Nurses' Association, an Accredited Approver by the American Nurses' Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. CNE application is pending for this program.
- > This program has been submitted to The Commission for Case Manager Certification for approval to provide case managers pending clock hours.
- > This activity is pending approval from the National Association of Social Workers.
- > Program pending CME Activity approval via CT AAP.

Why attend if your school already has a "Return to Play" Policy?

The sessions for school nurses and school staff will focus on the academic or the "Return to Learn" (RTL) side of concussions. The focus of RTL is on "what happens in school during the school day" that applies to academics and how to use a Concussion Management Team (CMT) model to address the student's need for temporary adjustments based on cognitive and physical symptoms associated with concussion in the first few weeks following injury. Last fall, the *American Academy of Pediatrics* issued a **Clinical Report: Returning to Learning Following a Concussion** which recommends a collaborative team approach as best practice for schools to help any student recovering from a concussion. The report suggests this CMT should consist of the student's pediatrician, family and "concussion-specific trained" individuals at the school responsible for both the student's academic schedule and physical activity. While the task of setting up these concussion management teams may sound daunting, the reality is that these students are already in your school, and your school already has trained nurses and staff working to accommodate students with all sorts of physical, education and emotional needs.

Who should attend this CMT training?

The professionals needed to form these two person CMT teams are already in the school buildings during the day and provide services to both non-athletes and athletes such as:

- **School nurse**
*The nurse should attend this training **PLUS at least one more staff member** who can make academic modification decisions and be a designated point person:
- **School psychologist**
- **School guidance counselor**
- **School social worker**
- **School special education director**
- **504 Coordinator**
- > **ATs should be an additional member of the team for student-athletes.**
ATs are an important resource for referrals from the student athlete population.

What will the CMT training provide?

Each participant will be trained and will leave with a framework and all materials needed to create a CMT. The purpose of the CMT is to handle the 80% of concussions that resolve in the first month, based on research and nationally recognized best practices. For concussions that last beyond the 4 week period, academic accommodations can be created in an IEP or a 504 plan for those students. The IEP or 504 system can address concussion referrals earlier for students who have multiple concussions in the past or if their symptoms are not progressively resolving in the first few weeks.

Patricia McDonough-Ryan, PhD obtained her Doctorate in Clinical Neuropsychology from the University of Cincinnati and completed her residency at the Atlanta VA and pediatric fellowship at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC). During her 7-year tenure as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at CCHMC and UC College of Medicine, Dr. Ryan served as the lead neuropsychologist for CCHMC's outpatient multidisciplinary rehabilitation program for children recovering from TBI and other neurological conditions. During this time she worked on the concussion management team for the NFL Cincinnati Bengal's. Dr. Ryan recently moved to Connecticut and provides neuropsychological concussion management consultation to local schools, pediatricians, The Concussion Center of Fairfield County, and Associated Neurologists. She is affiliated with Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons and St. Luke's/Roosevelt Hospital and has an expertise in children with high risk factors for prolonged recovery and complicated clinical management. Dr. Ryan's research has been supported by NIH's National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Environmental Health, and The Stanley Research Foundation.

Anne Pacileo, PT is a Site Supervisor for Gaylord Outpatient Therapy Services. She graduated from the University of Connecticut, and began her career working in an acute care hospital where she specialized in rehabilitation on the neuro ICU. During her 30 years of treating, she has earned status as a rehabilitation specialist in Acquired Brain Injury and pursued her special interest in the care of those with vestibular and balance disorders. Anne is a clinical lead in the Gaylord Center for Concussion Care, which received the BIAC 2014 Award for Education and Prevention related to brain injury. The comprehensive program allows various clinical disciplines to collaborate and determine areas of need, address those deficits and maximize recovery for adolescents and adults. Anne frequently speaks to community and professional groups about the therapies provided at Gaylord.

Katherine Snedaker, MSW received her Master's Degree in Social Work from Fordham University. She worked at Family & Children's Agency in Children Services and Adoption, and as a social worker in The Norwalk Public Schools. She helped found the Concussion Center of Fairfield County, and consults at The Concussion Specialists of Connecticut where she has run a Post Concussion Syndrome Support Teen group. She has been an invited participant in the NFL Concussion Health & Safety Meetings for the last two years. She has been asked to speak on youth sports concussion at state and national levels. Via SportsCAPP.com, Katherine has worked to spread youth concussion information utilizing social media. In 2012, she was invited to present for the Institute of Medicine committee regarding youth sport concussions and families. Via PinkConcussions.com, Katherine is working with researchers from Clemson University on a study on female athletes and concussions. She has experience with concussions as an athlete, a coach, CONNy Lacrosse League Concussion Advisor, and as a parent of two sons who have sustained multiple concussions & resulting Post Concussion Syndrome.

Register now @ www.TheConcussionConference.com

Support provided by:

 **Gaylord Center for
Concussion Care**

The Most Comprehensive Program in Connecticut



The Concussion Conference

2.0

Connecticut: Return to School THEN Return to Play

Wednesday, May 7, 2014 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Quinnipiac University School of Medicine | 370 Bassett Road | North Haven, CT 06473

Offered due to the overwhelmingly positive response from the January 2014 Concussion Conferences and multiple requests for additional training.

Providing advanced training for:

- **School nurses**
- **School psychologist**
- **School guidance counselor/social worker**
- **School special education director**
- **504 Coordinators**
- **Athletic Trainers**
- **Physicians, PAs, and APRNs**

Special breakout session for first time attendees on basic foundations focused on Return To Learn (RTL).

Speakers include nationally known experts and panels of local concussion professionals comprised of pediatricians, physical therapists, neuropsychologists, and advocates of brain injury prevention and athletic training education.

Exciting sessions by:

Dr. Tricia McDonough-Ryan, Dr. Thomas Trojjan, Katherine Snedaker MSW, Dr. David Wang, Dr. Mike Lee and the team of experts from Gaylord Center for Concussion Care. Also scheduled: Representative from CATA; Deb Shulansky from Brain Injury Alliance of CT (BIAC); Brain Injury attorney and BIAC Board member Paul A. Slager; Charlie Wund, Founder & President Agency for Student Health Research; Dr. Karissa Niehoff, The Executive Director at CT Association of Schools and CT Interscholastic Athletic Conference.

Register now @ www.TheConcussionConference.com.

Early bird pricing until Monday, April 7.

Event produced by Katherine Snedaker, PinkConcussions.com and SportsCAPP.com.
Co-sponsored by Gaylord Center for Concussion Care.