The Subjective Experience of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in Pediatric Patients
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Introduction
Mild Traumatic Brain Injury is a neurologic insult that impacts a child’s functioning across domains (Foit & Kautz, 2015, Longhorn, Ruddow-Hansen, & tobias, 2001). The experience of a concussion goes beyond the physical symptoms and recovery process (Limond, Dorris, & McMillan, 2009). Schroeder et al., 2012, found that patients require support and information about the impact of concussion on mood. There is a need to understand the impact of gender, age, and time post injury on recovery profile were also explored.

Methodology
The Subjective Experience of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in Pediatric Patients

Table 1. Age of Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (Years)</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-10</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-13</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17-18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Time Since Injury in Weeks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Since Injury</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Procedure
A 12 question paper and parent report recovery profile was completed including perspectives on the level of disruption the mild traumatic brain injury explained by learning, social interactions, and activities. The self-report measure was completed by 120 pediatric patients. The data was collected at Saint Peter’s Sports Medicine Institute is Homewood New Jersey between October 26 and December 12, 2015.

Figure 1. Gender Demographics

Perceived Impairment as a Result of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury
An overall rating of perceived impairment score was calculated by adding together all items except support from school.

Age of Participant
Age does not predict overall perception of recovery.

Gender
As independent T test found females with mild traumatic brain injury (M = 16.3, SD = 2.2) do not perceive “mild” recovery different from males (M = 15.9, SD = 2.1), t(118) = 0.55, p = 0.58.

Table 3. Percent of Participants Likert Response by Recovery Profile Item

Table 4. Correlation Across Time Since Injury and Recovery Profile Items

References

Conclusions
Findings
Time since injury predicted overall perception of recovery. The longer the recovery the greater the perceived impairment on recovery profile.

Clinical Implications
Evaluation of quality of life is important in pediatric concussion.

Limitations
Information on premorbid conditions was not included and may impact results.

Most of the participants were in the early stages of recovery.

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