IMPROVING CONCUSSION REPORTING

APPLYING THE SOCIO ECOLOGICAL MODEL

STAKEHOLDERS: WHO ARE THEY AND WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

- A systems theory that states human behavior is influenced by different factors at different levels.
- These factors could include: the individual player, teammate and coach influence, culture of the school/team, university policies, and the media.

HOW **CAN ATHLETIC TRAINERS USE THIS MODEL?**

Lack of knowledge

More knowledgeable

about SRC signs

and symptoms than

about seriousness of

sports-related concussion (SRC)

- Athletic trainers, athletic directors, coaches, teammates, and parents.
- They could influence players' perceptions and attitudes about reporting.

WHAT IS THE SOCIO ECOLOGICAL MODEL?

- Athletic trainers can use this model to design more effective interventions.
- Considering multiple factors at different levels can lead to more comprehensive interventions to improve concussion reporting behavior.

Microsystem

can be addressed or

"fixed" later

health

Concerns for future

Pressures from coaches and parents

Legality of SRC and following protocols

Collaboration among all that are involved with the student-athlete's Perception that SRC health

Mutual consensus regarding SRC

reporting

Mesosystem Relationships between microsystem settings

Greater support for sports medicine team

University system

and policies that

prioritizes student

health

Exosytem

Increase in SRC educational material

Masculinity and aggression in **American** football

Greater

awareness via

media attention

Macrosystem Cultural and societal norms

Individual-level

Individual attitudes, perceptions,

SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE PRACTICE

- These recommendations are particularly relevant to college football players.
- There is a continued need to educate front-line stakeholders in NCAA D1 football programs to reach concussion reporting behavior goals
- Future educational interventions focused on improving concussion reporting should include stakeholders beyond the individual student-athlete

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Example of the Social Ecological Model Applied to Other Health Conditions

More on Social Determinants of Health to Inform the Social Ecological Model https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/social-determinants-of-health

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