Acute Concussion Care Pathway

In order to standardize acute concussion assessment and care across the MHS, DHA established the Acute Concussion Care (ACC) Pathway. The goal of the ACC Pathway is to improve recovery times and outcomes by utilizing a multi-modal assessment tool at the time of injury—the [Military Acute Concussion Evaluation version 2](https://health.mil/Reference-Center/Publications/2020/07/30/Military-Acute-Concussion-Evaluation-MACE-2) (MACE 2) —and to ensure timely access to repeat evaluations with personalized treatment protocols in alignment with a progressive return to work activity. By establishing a standard pathway of care for mild TBI, providers can ensure a reduction in unwarranted variation and foster an integrated system of readiness and health.

Clinical Tools and Procedures for Assessment and Clinical Management of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury:

The ACC Pathway—a standardized assessment and treatment plan for acute concussion, mandates:

1. Use of the MACE 2 for acute assessment at the initial appointment
2. Follow-up within 72 hours after diagnosis of mild traumatic brain injury with assessments
3. Completion of a progressive return to activities (with health assessments) prior to return to full duty

MACE 2

The 2018 MACE 2 is an acute assessment tool for all medically trained personnel who treat service members involved in a potentially concussive event. The clinical tool incorporates current state-of-the science traumatic brain injury information, including vestibular-ocular-motor screening. The MACE 2 – IS ATTACHED

Progressive Return to Activity

The 2021 Progressive Return to Activity (PRA): Primary Care for Acute Concussion Management clinical recommendation is an evidence-based return to activity protocol for primary care managers and concussion/TBI clinic providers.

The PRA is a six-step approach that begins after the provider performs the MACE 2 and diagnoses the patient with a concussion, or mild TBI. The PRA stages start with relative rest and allow service members to gradually increase activities until they receive clearance for return to full duty or activity. In each stage, the PRA offers general and military specific activities and options to help providers manage their patients' primary symptom clusters.

Clinical recommendations for PRA THIS IS ATTACHED

\*NEW\* [Progressive Return to Activity Provider Training, DHA LMS Course #DHA-US1226](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/) (CAC authentication required)  I COULD NOT ACCESS THIS – IT WAS NOT YET PUBLIC

I have talked to Igor about getting these materials translated if you think they might be useful.

BUT THERE ARE SOME TRAINING SLIDES WHICH MIGHT BE USEFUL – I have sent them to Igor to review for possible translation into Ukraine as well. The training materials help understand assessment and decision making in return to active duty of individuals who are recovering from a mTBI

Recurrent Concussion Evaluation - ATTACHED