

Exercise Progression Instructions

The following protocol is used to *gradually* return you to activity. After **ALL** concussion symptoms (including headache) have resolved, you can begin the protocol.

1. Determine your RESTING HEART RATE (HR). The average is 60-80 beats per minute The radial pulse is located just below the thumb. The carotid pulse is located the side of the neck. Use two fingers when checking your pulse (not your thumb). Press lightly until you feel the pulse. Use a watch or clock and count the number of beats in one minute.



- 2. Determine your MAX HEART RATE by subtracting your age from 220.
- 3. Determine you TARGET HEART RATE. This is the average range of heart rate reached during exercise which enables your heart & lungs to receive the most benefit from exercise. Use the following formula:

Target HR = [(Max HR - Resting HR) x target %] + Resting HRExample: a 15 year old with resting HR of 60, exercising at 50% exertion Target HR = [(205 - 60) x 50%] + 60 = 132 beats per minute

- 4. Pay careful attention to your symptoms, your thinking, and your concentration skills at each stage of activity.
- 5. A 24 hour rest period should be taken before progressing to the next stage.
- 6. Move to the next stage of activity only if you do not experience any symptoms when completing the current exercise stage.
- 7. If your symptoms return, immediately discontinue activity and rest for 24 hours. If symptoms do not resolve or significantly worsen, consult your physician and/or athletic trainer.

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CAROLINA Sports Concussion Clinic

Name of	Name of Athlete:			Date symptom-free:		
	Hockey Specific Exercise Progression EXERCISE Day/Date COMPLETED / CO		OMPLETED / COMMENTS			
Stage 1	Goal is to reach 30-40% of maximum heart rate Walking at 2.5 mph or Riding a stationary bike for 20-30 minutes.		YES NO	Supervisor's initials		
Stage 2	Goal is to reach 40-60% of maximum heart rate Jogging (medium pace) for 20-30 minutes Sit-ups x 25 Push-ups x 20 Lunge walks x 20		YES NO	Supervisor's initials		
Stage 3	Goal is to reach 60-80% of maximum heart rate Skating for 20 – 30 minutes (alternate going forward and backward, 5 minutes each direction) at about 75% of full speed. Add stick work while skating, both directions x 10-15 minutes. Off ice: Sit-ups x 30, push-ups x 25, lunge walks x 25		YES NO	Supervisor's initials		
Stage 4	Goal is to reach 80% of maximum heart rate Skating for 30 minutes, add stick work for duration of skate. Gradually increase speed (50%, 75%, 100% of speed). Single person or 1 on 1 drills that incorporate fast changes in direction. Side-step over sticks then skate forward/accelerate x 10 reps. Cone drills		YES NO	Supervisor's initials		
	RETURN TO OFFICE FOR FINAL VISIT					
Stage 5	Goal is to reach full exertion. Participate in full-contact practice.		YES NO	Supervisor's initials		
Stage 6	Goal is to reach & maintain full exertion. Resume full participation in competition.		YES NO	Supervisor's initials		

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