Attention Tracker, presented as percentile ranks using normative data built-into the ImPACT QT.

Results Zambian athletes scored nearly two standard deviations below the mean on Motor Speed (7th percentile), when compared to North American normative data. However, performance on Attention Tracker (44th percentile) and Memory (56th percentile) among Zambian athletes was well within the average range.

Conclusions This data is the first to explore Zambian athletes’ performance on any concussion measure. Zambian athletes performed poorly on the ImPACT QT factor score related to motor speed. These results suggest that Zambian athletes may be unfamiliar with testing on an iPad device or there may have been cultural barriers in the interpretation of test directions. Further, understanding these preliminary performance measures are a starting point that could aid in understanding which concussion measures would be culturally appropriate to implement in the prevention, diagnosis, and care of concussion among Zambian athletes.

Clinical relevance Knowledge of normative scores may aid clinicians’ interpretation of baseline and post-injury SCAT5 scores.

Abstracts

NORMATIVE BASELINE SCAT5 SCORES IN A POPULATION OF UNITED STATES PARALYMPIC ATHLETES

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Background The Sport Concussion Assessment Tool 5th Edition (SCAT5) is the most recent version of the concussion evaluation tool used by clinicians to evaluate athletes with suspected concussions.

Objective To describe normative baseline SCAT5 scores among United States Paralympic athletes.

Design Retrospective descriptive epidemiology.

Setting United States Olympic and Paralympic Sports Medicine Centers.

Participants Fifty-eight Paralympic athletes (60.3% female, mean age±standard deviation (SD) = 30.2±10.6) representing 7 sport federations underwent baseline SCAT5 testing between April 2018 and July 2019.

Interventions None.

Main Outcome Measurements Baseline SCAT5 scores of healthy Paralympic athletes. T-tests were used to compare scores by sex.

Results Athletes reported an average of 5.0±5.4 symptoms (median=4.0, IQR=1.0–8.5) with an average severity score of 11.0±14.3 (median=6.0, IQR=0–17.5). Over half of athletes (59.3%) reported having sustained at least one concussion prior to testing (range=0–16 reported concussions). Mean scores ± SD for major components of the SCAT5: 4.8±0.74 for orientation, 21.0±3.7 for immediate memory, 3.9±1.1 for concentration, 6.7±6.4 for balance, 6.9±2.2 for delayed recall, and 15.7±2.8 for Standardized Assessment of Concussion. No sex differences were observed for any component scores of the SCAT5.

Conclusions Normative values for baseline SCAT5 performance are presented for a population of healthy Paralympic athletes. Future research should focus on the development of normative data for specific Paralympic disability classifications.