What is Post-Concussion Syndrome (PCS)?



The definition

Post-Concussion Syndrome (PCS) is the persistence of concussion symptoms beyond the typical course of recovery. After 1-2 months of persistent symptoms, doctors may diagnose patients with PCS.

Can you treat PCS?

Yes! A concussion specialist can refer you to a number of targeted therapies for PCS symptoms.

Visit our Resource Centre to find our PCS treatments list at: ConcussionFoundation.uk

You are not alone

- 10% of high school aged concussion patients will have PCS.
- About 20% of other age group and population patients will develop PCS.
- There is hope. PCS symptoms will not last forever. Most patients make a full recovery.
- PCS is not the same as CTE, which
 is a progressive, degenerative disease
 caused by repetitive head trauma.
 PCS is the persistent symptoms from
 a single concussion, and gets better
 with time and treatment.
- PCS is real. It is important to believe anyone who says they are experiencing persistent concussion symptoms.

SYMPTOMS

| Physical | Sleep | Cognitive | Mood & behavioural |
|---|--|---|---|
| Headache Dizziness Nausea Sensitivity to light and noise Blurry or double vision Fatigue | Sleeping more than usual Trouble falling asleep | Short-term memory loss Trouble concentrating Difficulty multi-tasking Lack of focus Slow processing | Anxiety Panic attacks Depression Irrational anger Increased sadness Irritability |

