

Title: The Reporting of Head Trauma in Rugby

Purpose of project: For my final year project for the B.A Mod in Computer Science and Business, Trinity College

Description of measurements and methods used: The interview will be conducted to see how head trauma is reported after a match by referees.

Participants: Anyone over the age of 18 who is a registered referee with the IRFU or any of the provincial boards is welcome to participate in the study. Nobody is excluded based on race or gender. The study will be small in order to gain some insight into the reporting of head trauma and concussions in rugby. There is no statistical justification for the small number of participants needed.

Debriefing arrangements: Feedback will be given at the end of the interview and the participant will be thanked for helping with the research into the reporting of head trauma in rugby.

Ethical considerations:

- If during the interview any illegal or illicit activity is uncovered I will be obliged to report it to the relevant authorities.
- If any personal information is given over the course of the interview this information will be anonymised. Once the information is anonymised the participant will be unable to exclude themselves or any information from the study.
- I will be making an audio recording of the interview to transcribe after the interview. Both the device I make the audio recording on and the device I transcribe the interview to will both be password protected in order to protect the identity of the participant and the integrity of the data.
- The audio recording I make will only be made available to the research team and will not be made available on any public platform.
- Once the project has been completed, I will dispose of the recording by permanently deleting it and by shredding any hard files relating to it.
- The participant has the right for any information given by them to be protected under the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003.