Neuropsychological tests

The Rivermead Post-concussion symptoms Questionnaire (RPQ) is a series of questionnaires designed to evaluate the severity of subjective symptoms after head injury or accident (1). The total RPQ score for 16 post-concussion syndrome (PCS) symptoms ranges from 0–64 with a higher score representing a greater degree of symptoms. The test is composed of RPQ-3 (three items for scoring headaches, nausea and/or vomiting, and dizziness, representing early concussion symptoms), and RPQ-13 (13 items for scoring cognitive, mood, sleep, and other physical symptoms, indicative of later symptoms of PCS).

Computerized neurocognitive function tests consist of a number of tests to assess three domains of the patient’s cognitive function (2, 3): 1) attention, 2) memory, and 3) executive function. Auditory continuous performance test (correct responses and commission errors) evaluates attention. Verbal learning test (immediate recall, delayed recall, delayed recognition) and digit span test (forward and backward) evaluate the memory function. The card sorting test (perseverative response) is for evaluating the executive function. Scores are converted to T scores, which are used for the final interpretation of the patient’s cognitive function: T score < 30, markedly atypical; 30–40, moderately atypical; 40–60, average range; > 60, good performance.

REFERENCES