



# Shedding light on concussion – modern management of head injuries in football

**Claus Reinsberger**  
Paderborn University, Germany  
Mass General Brigham,  
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

**Concussion diagnosis and management has significantly changed over the past decades. Scientific data has contributed to pathophysiological understanding of acute and long term effects of traumatic head and brain injuries and informed clinical guidelines.**

The **Concussion in Sport Group** regularly provides literature and consensus based **clinical guidelines** and **tools for practitioners**, but implementation into routine clinical care in football remains at times challenging. At the end of this talk, the audience will be familiar with clinical concepts of screening, diagnosing and treating football associated concussion.



**Concussion is the mildest form of a mild traumatic brain injury that is often challenging to diagnose and manage**



**Appropriate screening, correct diagnosis and prompt initiation of treatment are associated with positive short and long term outcome**



## Take home messages

1

### Comprehensive screening

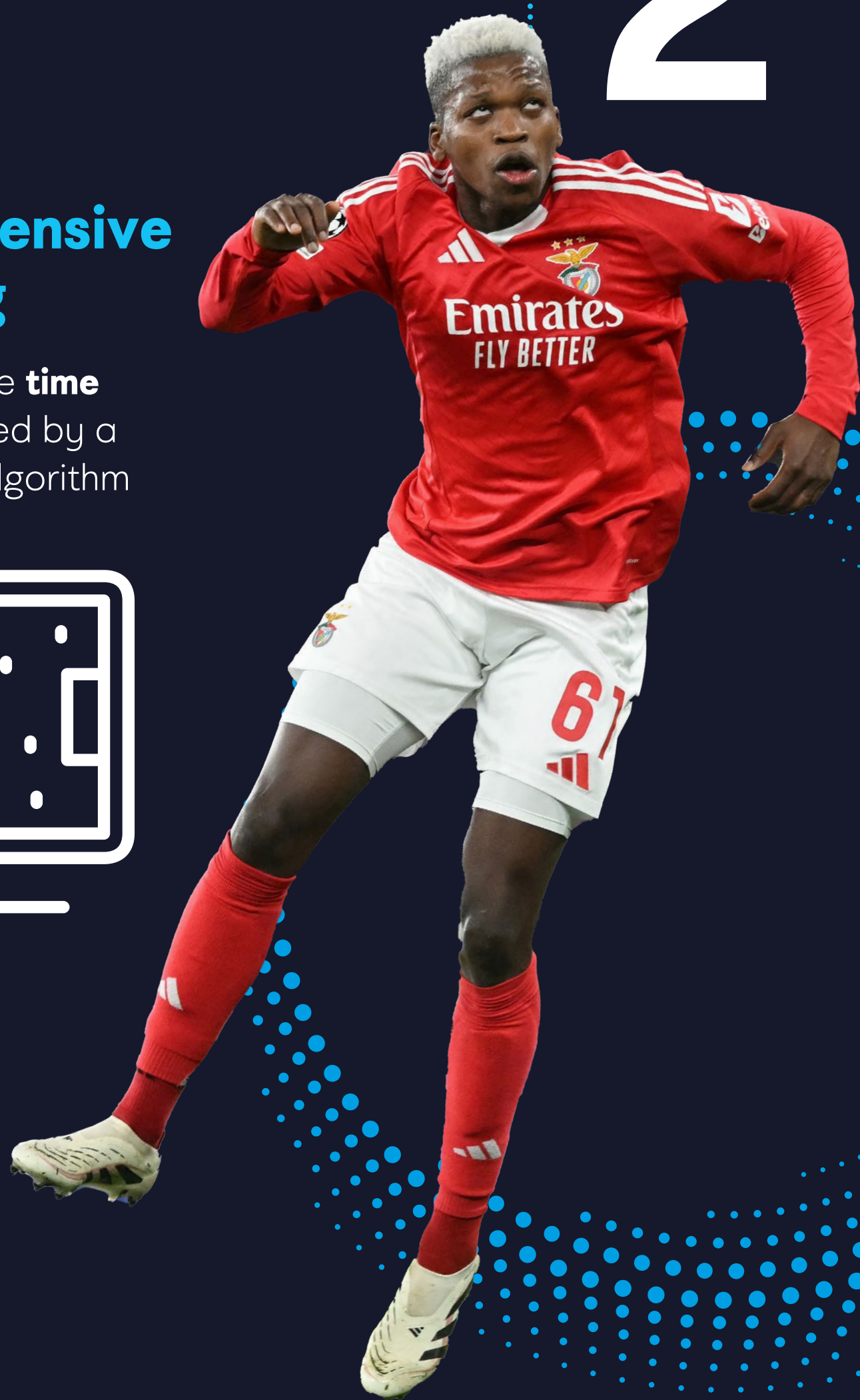
**on pitch may be time efficient** if guided by a standardized algorithm



2

### Effective treatment

and **prevention of long term health problems** often depend on **early access** to specialized concussion care



3

### Concussion is a treatable injury



**References**  
Patricios JS, Schneider KJ, Dvorak J, Ahmed OH, Blauwet C, Cantu RC, Davis GA, Echemendia RJ, Makdissi M, McNamee M, Broglio S, Emery CA, Feddermann-Demont N, Fuller GW, Giza CC, Guskiewicz KM, Hainline B, Iverson GL, Kutcher JS, Leddy JJ, Maddocks D, Manley G, McCrea M, Purcell LK, Putukian M, Sato H, Tuominen MP, Turner M, Yeates KO, Herring SA, Meeuwisse W. Consensus statement on concussion in sport: the 6th International Conference on Concussion in Sport-Amsterdam, October 2022. Br J Sports Med. 2023 Jun;57(11):695-711. doi: 10.1136/bjsports-2023-106898. PMID: 37316210.  
Livingston G, Huntley J, Liu KY, Costafreda SG, Salbaek G, Alladi S, Ames D, Banerjee S, Burns A, Brayne C, Fox NC, Femi CP, Gitlin LN, Howard R, Kales HC, Kivimäki M, Larson EB, Nakasujja N, Rockwood K, Samus Q, Shirai K, Singh-Manoux A, Schneider LS, Walsh S, Yao Y, Sommerlad A, Mukadam N. Dementia prevention, intervention, and care: 2024 report of the Lancet standing Commission. Lancet. 2024 Aug 10;404(10452):572-628. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(24)01296-0. Epub 2024 Jul 31. PMID: 39096926.

