Gender-based differences have been noted in the incidence of sports-related concussions. However, little is known about the possible differences in concussion mechanisms.

Do women and men athletes differ in terms of the mechanisms that cause concussions, such as:
- Player-to-player contact
- Equipment/ball contact

Because the causes of concussions differ so widely between men and women athletes, the implementation of other interventions are needed to ensure player safety, including protective head equipment in the women's game, rules limiting player contact in the men's game, or concussion-prevention training for all athletes.

**Risk of concussion from player contact**
- Ice hockey: 0.64**
- Basketball: 0.86*
- Lacrosse: 0.33**
- Soccer heading: 0.80**
- Soccer: 0.70**

**Risk of concussion from ball/equipment contact**
- Ice hockey: 3.24**
- Basketball: 2.63**
- Lacrosse: 2.04**

* *p = 0.01  ** *p < 0.001