**RUGBY CODES RESEARCH GROUP**

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**Dr Danielle Salmon PhD**

**Research specialization:** Injury rehabilitation, surveillance, and prevention with a specialization in concussions and neck strength.

**Experience:** Danielle is currently employed as a Research Scientist with New Zealand Rugby with a particular focus on the area of concussion. In this role she leads a community rugby concussion education, awareness and management strategy through RugbySmart, developed and conducted an injury surveillance program for Super Rugby, coordinated and implements the Otago Head Impact Detection Study and is a member of the NZR Medical and Science Advisory panel. She completed her PhD from the University of Otago looking at *An Examination of Functional Neck Strength and Endurance and its Relationship to Neck Injury and Self-Reported Neck Pain in Professional Rugby Players.* She also completed her Masters in Canada from the University of Regina in the field of kinesiology and health sciences looking at the Efficacy of Exercise Therapy in Reducing Neck Pain and Fatigue in CH-146 Helicopter Aircrew.

**Research overview:** As illustrated by my work experience and academic background my research passion is the design and implementation of injury prevention programs. My work to date in this field has been primarily with the military or at the professional sport level. However, in my role as Research Scientist I have been able to implement and evaluate a concussion education and management strategy in a number of high schools and clubs across NZ. The opportunity to work in the community rugby space has been a very rewarding experience and I feel the potential to affect positive behavioural changes towards concussion disclosure at the community level to ensure player welfare and make the game safer has been a major motivator for my work in this area.

**Research publications:**

1. **Salmon D**, Chua J, Sullivan SJ, Whatman C, Brown J, Register-Mihalik J, Walters S, Clacy A, Keung S, Sole G, Kerr ZY, Rasmussen K, England M, Murphy I. Baseline concussion assessment performance of community-based senior rugby players: a cross-sectional study. *Brain Injury*, accepted 23rd August 2021.
2. **Salmon, D.M.**, Romanchuk J., Sullivan J., Walters S., Clacy A., et al. Concussion knowledge, attitude and reporting intention in rugby coaches and high school rugby players. Int J or Sport Sci & Coach. 2020;16(1):54-69.
3. **Salmon, D.M.**, Romanchuk J., Murphy I., Sullivan J., Walters S., Whatman C., et al. Infographic. New Zealand Rugby’s concussion management pathway. Br J Sports Med. 2020;54(5):298-9.
4. **Salmon D.M.**, Sullivan S.J., Romanchuk J., Murphy I., Walters S., Whatman C., et al. Infographic. New Zealand rugby’s community concussion initiative: keeping kiwi communities RugbySmart. Br J Sports Med. 2020;54(5):300-1.
5. **Salmon D.M.**, McGowan J., Sullivan S.J., Murphy I., Walters S., Whatman C., et al. What they know and who they are telling: Concussion knowledge and disclosure behaviour in New Zealand adolescent rugby union players. J Sports Sci. 2020:1-10.
6. **Salmon D.M.**, Sullivan S.J., Murphy I., Register Mihalik J.K., Dougherty B., McCrory G. Square peg round hole - Time to customise a concussion assessment tools for primary care: The New Zealand experience? A call for a GP-SCAT. Brain Inj. 2020:1-2.
7. Hoeta T.J., Oldershaw S.A., Young S.M., **Salmon, D.M.**, Sullivan, J.S. First aid in rugby (FAIR) training: The Otago experience. The New Zealand Journal of Sports Medicine. 2020;47(1):20-6.
8. Quarrie K., Gianotti S., Murphy I., Harold P., **Salmon D.M.**, Harawira J. RugbySmart: Challenges and Lessons from the Implementation of a Nationwide Sports Injury Prevention Partnership Programme. Sports Med. 2020;50(2):227-30.
9. **Salmon, D.M.**, Sullivan SJ, Handcock P, Rehrer NJ, Niven B. Neck strength and self-reported neck dysfunction: what is the impact of a season of Rugby Union? J Sports Med Phys Fitness. 2018;58(7-8):1078-89.
10. **Salmon, D.M.**, Handcock, P., Sullivan, S.J., Rehrer, N.J. & Niven, B. Can neck strength be measured using a single maximal contraction in a simulated contact position. *J Strength Cond Res.* 2017; Epub ahead of print. (Impact Factor = 1.858, 29/81, ISI Sport Sciences)
11. Neary, J.P., **Salmon, D.M.**, Dahlstrom, B.K., Casey, E.J. & Behm, D.G. Effects of an inverted seated position on single and sustained isometric contractions and cardiovascular parameters of trained individuals. *Hum Mov Sci.* 2015; 40(0):119-133. (Impact factor = 2.027, 22/81, ISI Sport Sciences)
12. **Salmon, D.M.**, Handcock, P., Sullivan, S.J., Rehrer, N.J. & Niven, B. Reliability of repeated isometric neck strength and endurance testing in a simulated contact posture. *J Strength Cond Res.* 2015; 29(3): 637-646. (Impact Factor = 1.858, 29/81, ISI Sport Sciences)
13. **Salmon, D.M.,** Neary, J.P. & Harrison, M.F. Neck pain in military helicopter aircrew and the role of exercise therapy. *Aviat Space Environ Med.*2013; 82(9): 1-10. (Impact Factor = 0.782, 105/151, ISI Medicine General & Internal)