

*Rugby Australia (RA) has an extensive track record of implementing policies and procedures to both reduce and manage occurrences of head injuries. RA and its medical experts, benefit greatly from the huge amount of research that World Rugby conducts in this space.*

*You can see some of their work and frameworks here -*

*<https://www.world.rugby/the-game/player-welfare/medical/concussion/concussion-guidelines>. We work together on many of their research projects that have informed – and will continue to inform – much of what we implement. You can also find our policies and procedures for concussion management for organised Rugby in Australia here – <https://australia.rugby/about/codes-and-policies/safety-and-welfare/concussion-management>.*

*Some examples of work that is being undertaken include a new tackle height trial, designed to investigate the possible laws that could move the tackling players further away from the attacking player's head. There is eye-tracking technology, and force-detecting mouthguards, which are all in various state of testing currently.*

*RA, in conjunction with World Rugby, introduced a graduated return-to-play process with a minimum 12-day stand-down for head injuries in its professional and semi-professional competitions over a year ago.*

*Much of the research that RA is currently involved in regarding head injuries was outlined in our written submission to the Senate inquiry.*

*RA took the Senate Inquiry extremely seriously, as we are passionate about the work that we have done to date, the measures that have been implemented, Rugby's global focus on player welfare, and the ongoing work that the sport continues to do in learning more about head injuries, and the best path forward for how we mitigate and manage any risks in our sport.*

*We are not in a position to pre-empt the findings of the Senate Inquiry. However, we eagerly await the findings from the Senate Inquiry – and we look forward to working through the recommendations.*