# Evaluation of the Injured Athlete

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### Disclosure

• No disclosures to report.



## **Evaluation of the Injured Athlete**

- Pre-participation Physical Exam (PPE)
- Emergency Action Plans (EAP)
- On-field Evaluations
- Sideline Evaluations

Injury Management and Treatment



### **Pre-participation Physical Exam**

Medical and Family History

- Assess for hereditary conditions (HCM, Marfan Syndrome, Long QT, Arrythmia, etc.)
- Missing organs (kidney, eye, testicle, spleen, etc.)
- Previous hospitalizations/ surgeries
- General Health Screening
   Ht./ Wt./ Blood Pressure/ Pulse/ Visual Acuity
- Cardiovascular Screening
  - Auscultation for murmurs/ Pulses/ EKG/ Echo

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### **Pre-participation Physical Exam**

Neurologic Screening

- History of Concussions/ Baseline testing
- Spinal Cord/ Brachial Plexus injuries

Musculoskeletal Screening
 Functional screening (identify tight/ weak muscles)
 Evaluation of previous surgeries/ x-ray hardware
 General Medical Screening

Sickle Cell Testing/ Other labs as indicated



### **Pre-participation Physical Exam**

- Medication Use
  - ADHD medications (Stimulants)/ Supplements??
- Nutritional Assessment
  - Disordered eating
- Heat/ Hydration-Related Illness Risk Factors
  - Syncopal episodes?
- Mental Health Considerations



### **Emergency Action Plans**

- Address/ location
- Directions/ Venue access
- Personnel/ Roles
- Phone numbers
- Heat Policy
- Emergency Equipment (AEDs, first aid kits, spine board, splints)





## EAP: Lightning Protocol



Monitor weather reports
First sound of thunder, lighting is likely within 8-10 miles
Seek shelter immediately and avoid using landline phones
Allow 30 minutes from

last thunder/ lightning before resuming play



### **EAP: Heat Illness Protocol**



- Activate EMS
  Remove excess clothing and hydrate
  Monitor core temp. with a rectal thermometer
  Cool with fans, ice, cold
- water submersion
- Lower core temp. to 102 F prior to transport











### Injured Athlete: On Field Evaluation

- Quick assessment to determine the extent and severity of injury
- Determine the need for splinting or spine boarding
- How can athlete be safely removed from playing field for further evaluation?









### Injured Athlete: Fractures/ Dislocations



Assess for deformities consistent with fractures or dislocations

 Assess movement of injured extremity

Assess Neurovascular status







### Injured Athlete: Fractures/ Dislocations

- Vacuum Splints
- Splint joint above and below suspected fracture site
- Check for distal pulses after splint is applied







 Cervical Spine injuries can be catastrophic

 Axial Loading "Spearing" is the primary mechanism

Athlete falls to ground with no movement



- First responder on the scene must provide immobilization to the cervical spine
- Consider ABCs
- Palpate cervical spine
- Neurologic exam













- Face mask must be removed immediately
- Must have access to airway
- Helmet and shoulder pads stay in place
- If removed, helmet and shoulder pads must be removed simultaneously







 Spine Boarding: log roll technique to maintain a neutral cervical position

 Person immobilizing Cspine is in command

**PRACTICE!!** 



### Injured Athlete: Sideline Evaluation

- Initial assessment by ATC
- Evaluation by appropriate healthcare provider
- Determine whether x-ray is indicated for injury
- Determine playing status and communicate to coaching staff







May or may not be associated with LOC
"Eye in the Sky"
Important to have baseline testing
Must be removed from game and evaluated

 Initiate concussion protocol



### SCAT2

	FI	FA
THEA .		



Blur

Sport Concussion Assessment Tool 2

Name			
Sport/team			
Date/time of injury			
Date/time of assessment			
Age	Gender	M	F F
Years of education completed			
Examiner			

### What is the SCAT2?<sup>1</sup>

This tool represents a standardized method of evaluating injured athletes for concussion and can be used in athletes aged from 10 years and older. It supersedes the original SCAT published in 2005<sup>2</sup>. This tool also enables the calculation of the Standardized Assessment of Concussion (SAC)<sup>3,4</sup> score and the Maddocks questions<sup>5</sup> for sideline concussion assessment.

### Instructions for using the SCAT2

The SCAT2 is designed for the use of medical and health professionals. Preseason baseline testing with the SCAT2 can be helpful for interpreting post-injury test scores. Words in Italics throughout the SCAT2 are the instructions given to the athlete by the tester.

This tool may be freely copied for distribuion to individuals, teams, groups and organizations.

### What is a concussion?

A concussion is a disturbance in brain function caused by a direct or indirect force to the head. It results in a variety of nonspecific symptoms (like those listed below) and often does not involve loss of consciousness. Concussion should be suspected in the presence of any one or more of the following:

- Symptoms (such as headache), or
- · Physical signs (such as unsteadiness), or · Impaired brain function (e.g. confusion) or
- Abnormal behaviour.

Any athlete with a suspected concussion should be **REMOVED FROM PLAY, medically assessed, monitored for** deterioration (i.e., should not be left alone) and should not drive a motor vehicle.

### **Symptom Evaluation**

### How do you feel?

You should score yourself on the following symptoms, based on how you feel now.

	none mild		moderate		severe		
Headache	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
"Pressure in head"	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Neck Pain	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Nausea or vomiting	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dizziness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Blurred vision	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Balance problems	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sensitivity to light	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sensitivity to noise	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Feeling slowed down	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Feeling like "in a fog"	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
"Don't feel right"	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Difficulty concentrating	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Difficulty remembering	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Fatigue or low energy	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Confusion	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Drowsiness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Trouble falling asleep (if applicable)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
More emotional	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
rritability	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sadness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Nervous or Anxious	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

Total number of symptoms (Maximum possible 22) Symptom severity score

(Add all scores in table, maximum possible: 22 x 6 = 132)		
Do the symptoms get worse with physical activity?	Y	

Do the symptoms get worse with mental activity?	Y	

### **Overall** rating

If you know the athlete well prior to the injury, how different is the athlete acting compared to his / her usual self? Please circle one response.

no different very different unsure

### **Cognitive & Physical Evaluation**

### **Physical signs score**

Was there loss of conscie	ousness or unresponsiveness?	Y	N
If yes, how long?	minutes		
Was there a balance pro	blem/unsteadiness?	Y	N
Physical signs score (1	point for each negative response)	of	2

diasgow coma scale (dc3)	
Best eye response (E)	
No eye opening	1
Eye opening in response to pain	2
Eye opening to speech	3
Eyes opening spontaneously	4
Best verbal response (V)	
No verbal response	1
Incomprehensible sounds	2
Inappropriate words	3
Confused	4
Oriented	5
Best motor response (M)	
No motor response	1
Extension to pain	2
Abnormal flexion to pain	3
Flexion/Withdrawal to pain	4
Localizes to pain	5
Obeys commands	6
Glasgow Coma score (E + V + M)	of 15

GCS should be recorded for all athletes in case of subsequent deterioration

### Sideline Assessment – Maddocks Score "I am going to ask you a few guestions, please listen carefully

and give your best effort."

Modified Maddocks questions (1 point for each of	correct answer)	
At what venue are we at today?	0	1
Which half is it now?	0	1
Who scored last in this match?	0	1
What team did you play last week/game?	0	1
Did your team win the last game?	0	1

### Maddocks score

Maddocks score is validated for sideline diagnosis of concussion only and is not included in SCAT 2 summary score for serial testing

This tool has been developed by a group of international experts at the 3rd International Consensus meeting on Concussion in Sport held in Zurich, Switzerland in November 2008. The full details of the conference outcomes

Switzerland in November 2008. The full details of the conference outcomes and the authors of the tool are published in Britsh Journal of Sports Medicine, 2009, volume 43, supplement 1. The outcome paper will also be simultaneously co-published in the May 2009 issues of Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Journal of Athelic Training, Journal of Clinical Neuroscience, Journal of Science & Medicine in Sport, Neurosurgery, Scandinavan Journal of Science & Medicine in Sport, Neurosurgery, Scandinavan Journal of Science & Medicine in Sport, Neurosurgery, Scandinavan Journal of Science & Medicine in Sport, Neurosurgery, Scandinavan Journal

McCrory P et al. Summary and agreement statement of the 2<sup>rd</sup> International rence on Concussion in Sport, Prague 2004. British Journal of Sports ine. 2005; 39: 196-204

### **Cognitive assessment**

Standardized Assessment of Concussion (SAC) Orie

Unentation (1 point for each correct answer)	
What month is it?	1.0
What is the date today?	
What is the day of the week?	
What year is it?	( A)
What time is it right now? (within 1 hour)	
	_

### **Orientation** score

Wha

of 22

of 5

Immediate memory "I am going to test your memory. I will read you a list of words and when I am done, repeat back as many words as you can remember, in any order."

Irials 2 & 3:	
"I am going to repeat	t the same list again. Repeat back as many
words as you can rem	ember in any order, even if you said the
word before."	

Complete all 3 trials regardless of score on trial 1 & 2. Read the words at a rate of one per second. Score 1 pt. for each correct response. Total score equals sum across all 3 trials. Do not inform the athlete that delayed recall will be tested.

List	Tria	11	Tria	12	Tria	13	Altern	ist	
elbow	0	1	0	1	0	1	candle	baby	finger
apple	0	1	0	1	0	1	paper	monkey	penny
carpet	0	1	0	1	0	1	sugar	perfume	blanket
saddle	0	1	0	1	0	1	sandwich	sunset	lemon
bubble	0	1	0	1	0	1	wagon	iron	insect

### Immediate memory score

of 15

1

1

### Concentration **Digits Backward:**

Total

"I am going to read you a string of numbers and when I am done, you repeat them back to me backwards, in reverse order of how I read them to you. For example, if I say 7-1-9, you would say 9-1-7."

If correct, go to next string length. If incorrect, read trial 2. One point possible for each string length. Stop after incorrect on both trials. The digits should be read at the rate of one per second.

	Alternative digit lists						
4-9-3	0	1	6-2-9	5-2-6	4-1-5		
3-8-1-4	0	1	3-2-7-9	1-7-9-5	4-9-6-8		
6-2-9-7-1	0	1	1-5-2-8-6	3-8-5-2-7	6-1-8-4-3		
7-1-8-4-6-2	0	1	5-3-9-1-4-8	8-3-1-9-6-4	7-2-4-8-5-6		

### Months in Reverse Order:

"Now tell me the months of the year in reverse order. Start with the last month and go backward. So you'll say December, November ... Go ahead"

1 pt. for entire sequence correct

Dec-Nov-Oct-Sept-Aug-Jul-Jun-May-Apr-Mar-Feb-Jan 0 1 of 5 Concentration score

<sup>3</sup> McCrea M, Standardized mental status testing of acute concussion. Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine. 2001; 11: 176-181

<sup>4</sup> McCrea M, Randolph C, Kelly J. Standardized Assessment of Concussion: Manual for administration, scoring and interpretation. Waukesha, Wisconsin, USA

<sup>5</sup> Maddocks, DL; Dicker, GD; Saling, MM. The assessment of orientation following concussion in athletes. Clin J Sport Med. 1995;5(1):32–3

<sup>6</sup> Guskiewicz KM. Assessment of postural stability following sport-related concussion. Current Sports Medicine Reports. 2003; 2: 24-30



|--|--|

N

N

### **Balance** examination

This balance testing is based on a modified version of the Balance Error Scoring System (BESS)<sup>6</sup>. A stopwatch or watch with a second hand is required for this testing.

### **Balance testing**

"I am now going to test your balance. Please take your shoes off, roll up your pant legs above ankle (if applicable), and remove any ankle taping (if applicable). This test will consist of three twenty second tests with different stances.

### (a) Double leg stance:

"The first stance is standing with your feet together with your hands on your hips and with your eyes closed. You should try to maintain stability in that position for 20 seconds. I will be counting the number of times you move out of this position. I will start timing when you are set and have closed your eyes."

### (b) Single leg stance:

"If you were to kick a ball, which foot would you use? [This will be the dominant foot] Now stand on your non-dominant foot. The dominant leg should be held in approximately 30 degrees of hip flexion and 45 degrees of knee flexion. Again, you should try to maintain stability for 20 seconds with your hands on your hips and your eyes closed. I will be counting the number of times you move out of this position. If you stumble out of this position, open your eyes and return to the start position and continue balancing. I will start timing when you are set and have closed your eyes."

### (c) Tandem stance:

"Now stand heel-to-toe with your non-dominant foot in back. Your weight should be evenly distributed across both feet. Again, you should try to maintain stability for 20 seconds with your hands on your hips and your eyes closed. I will be counting the number of times you move out of this position. If you stumble out of this position, open your eyes and return to the start position and continue balancing. I will start timing when you are set and have closed your eyes.

### Balance testing – types of errors 1. Hands lifted off iliac crest

- 2. Opening eyes 3. Step, stumble, or fall
- 4. Moving hip into > 30 degrees abduction
- 5. Lifting forefoot or heel
- 6. Remaining out of test position > 5 sec

Each of the 20-second trials is scored by counting the errors, or deviations from the proper stance, accumulated by the athlete. The examiner will begin counting errors only after the individual has assumed the proper start position. The modified BESS is calculated by adding one error point for each error during the three 20-second tests. The maximum total number of errors for any single condition is 10. If a athlete commits multiple errors nultaneously, only one error is recorded but the athlete should

quickly return to the testing position, and counting should resume once subject is set. Subjects that are unable to maintain the testing procedure for a minimum of five seconds at the start are assigned the highest possible score, ten, for that testing condition.

Which foot was tested:	Left	Right	+ foot)
Condition	(DP. WORDED IS D	e non-dominar	Total errors
Double Leg Stance (feet to	oether)		of 10
Single leg stance (non-dominant foot)			of 10
Tandem stance (non-dominant foot at back)			of 10
Balance examination sc	ore (30 minu	s total errors)	of 30

### **Coordination examination**

Upper limb coordination Finger-to-nose (FTN) task: "I am going to test your coordination now. Please sit comfortably on the chair with your eyes open and your arm (either right or left) outstretched (shoulder flexed to 90 degrees and elbow and fingers extended). When I give a start signal, I would like you to perform five successive finger to nose repetitions using your index finger to touch the tip of the nose as quickly and as accurately as possible.

of 1

Which arm was tested: Left Right

Scoring:	5 correct repetitions in < 4 seconds = 1
Note for testers:	Athletes fail the test if they do not touch their nose, do not fully extend their elbow or do not perform five repetitions. Failure should be scored as 0.

Coordination score

### **Cognitive assessment**

### Standardized Assessment of Concussion (SAC) Delayed recall

"Do you remember that list of words I read a few times earlier? Tell me as many words from the list as you can remember in any order.

Circle each word correctly recalled. Total score equals number of words recalled

List	Alternative word la			
elbow	candle	baby	finger	
apple	paper	monkey	penny	
carpet	sugar	perfume	blanket	
saddle	sandwich	sunset	lemon	
bubble	wagon	iron	insect	
Delayed recall score			of 5	

### **Overall score**

Symptom score	of 22
Physical signs score	of 2
Glasgow Coma score (E + V + M)	of 15
Balance examination score	of 30
Coordination score	of 1
Subtotal	of 70
Orientation score	of 5
Immediate memory score	of 5
Concentration score	of 15
Delayed recall score	of 5
SAC subtotal	of 30
SCAT2 total	of 100
Maddocks Score	of 5

Definitive normative data for a SCAT2 "cut-off" score is not available at this time and will be developed in prospective studies. Embedded within the SCAT2 is the SAC score that can be utilized separately in concussion management. The scoring system also takes on particular clinical significance during serial assessment where it can be used to document either a decline or an improvement in neurological functioning.

Scoring data from the SCAT2 or SAC should not be used as a stand alone method to diagnose concussion, measure recovery or make decisions about an athlete's readiness to return to competition after concussion.

### Athlete Information

### Any athlete suspected of having a concussion should be removed from play, and then seek medical evaluation.

### Signs to watch for

Problems could arise over the first 24-48 hours. You should not be left alone and must go to a hospital at once if you:

Test domain

- Have a headache that gets worse Are very drowsy or can't be awakened (woken up)
- Can't recognize people or places
- Have repeated vomiting
- Behave unusually or seem confused; are very irritable

Tool

- Have seizures (arms and legs ierk uncontrollably)
- Have weak or numb arms or legs Are unsteady on your feet; have slurred speech

### Remember, it is better to be safe

### Consult your doctor after a suspected concussion.

### **Return to play**

Athletes should not be returned to play the same day of injury. When returning athletes to play, they should follow a stepwise symptom-limited program, with stages of progression. For example: rest until asymptomatic (physical and mental rest)

- light aerobic exercise (e.g. stationary cycle) 3. sport-specific exercise
- non-contact training drills (start light resistance training)
- full contact training after medical clearance
   return to competition (game play)

There should be approximately 24 hours (or longer) for each stage and the athlete should return to stage 1 if symptoms recur. Resistance training should only be added in the later stages. Medical clearance should be given before return to play.

	1001	Test contraint	11110				50	ore			
			Date tested								
			Days post injury								
		Symptom score									
SCAT2		Physical signs score									
		Glasgow Coma score (E +	V + M)								
		Balance examination score	e								
		Coordination score									
		Orientation score									
		Immediate memory score									
	SAC	Concentration score									
		Delayed recall score									
		SAC Score									
Tota	1	SCAT2									
Sym	ptom seve	erity score (max possible 1	32)								
Retu	irn to play	,		Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y I	N

### Additional comments

### Concussion injury advice (To be given to concussed athlete)

This patient has received an injury to the head. A careful medical examination has been carried out and no sign of any serious complications has been found. It is expected that recovery will be rapid, but the patient will need monitoring for a further period by a responsible adult. Your treating physician will provide guidance as to this timeframe.

If you notice any change in behaviour, vomiting, dizziness, worsening headache, double vision or excessive drowsiness, please telephone the clinic or the nearest hospital emergency department immediately.

Other important points:

- Rest and avoid strenuous activity for at least 24 hours No alcohol
- No sleeping tablets
- Use paracetamol or codeine for headache. Do not use aspirin or anti-inflammatory medication
- Do not drive until medically cleared
- Do not train or play sport until medically cleared

Clinic phone number

Patient's name Date/time of injury Date/time of medical review Treating physician

### Contact details or stamp

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Assess Cranial Nerves

 Smooth Pursuits and Saccades (vert./ horz.)
 Eye tracking, EOM

 Convergence Testing
 Normal: Object becomes blurry < 6 cm from nose</li>

Balance Testing



- SCAT 5/ C3/ Impact are tools for assessing symptoms but are not diagnostic for concussion
- Any athlete diagnosed with a concussion can not return to play that same day; take helmet away
- Determine need for diagnostic imaging to assess for any bleeding; Lab testing?????
- Athlete must be symptom free prior to progressing through concussion protocol
- RTP requires clearance from healthcare provider

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### **Injured Athlete: Concussion Protocol**



### Step 1

Light Aerobic exercise

No resistance training

Step 2

Increase intensity of exertive activity



### **Injured Athlete: Concussion Protocol**

### Step 3

### Step 4

 Sport specific activity/ drill with no head contact Full competitive practice

- Progressive resistance training
- Step 5

Return to play



### Injured Athlete: Epidural Hematoma



 Arterial tear between the skull and dura (can be venous) More common in younger individuals May experience lucid • interval followed by unconsciousness Biconvex lens shaped on CT



### **Injured Athlete: Subdural Hematoma**



 Gradually increasing headache and confusion (i.e. concussion symptoms) Injury involves tear of bridging veins between the dura and arachnoid Crescent shaped



## Injured Athlete: Brachial Plexus



- Burner/ Stinger
- Transient neurapraxia of cervical nerve roots
- Unilateral upper extremity weakness

 Hold from competition until ROM/ strength returns; length of time is variable



### **Injured Athlete: Hip Pointer**

- Common injury in football and hockey
- Deep bruise to the Iliac Crest of the pelvis
- Treat with NSAIDs, Ice and possible injection
- Pad the area well
- Early ROM exercises to avoid stiffness





## **Injured Athlete: Thigh Contusion**



- Apply compression wrap with knee in maximal flexion to fully stretch quad
- Treat with ice and NSAIDs
- Ultrasound and early ROM
- Start treatment immediately to reduce the risk of Myositis Ossificans



## Injured Athlete: Athletic Pubalgia

- Also referred to as a Sports Hernia
- Common in hockey, football, soccer and wresting
- Foot planted with associated twisting motion
- Tx: rest, PT, NSAID; may consider surgery if conservative tx fails





### Injured Athlete: Stress Fractures

- More than 50% occur in the lower extremity
- MOI: Overuse injury, increasing activity too rapidly, unfamiliar surface, improper equipment, poor nutrition
- Female Athlete Triad: Eating Disorder/ Amenorrhea/ Osteoporosis





### Evidenced Based Medicine: Stress Fractures

### X-rays

- Sensitivity of 15-35% on initial examination
- Sensitivity increases to 30-70% at 2-3 week follow-up evaluation
- Should obtain plain film x-rays prior to advanced imaging

MRI

- MRI has surprassed bone scans in imaging for stress fractures
- MRI is 90-100% sensitive and up to 85% specific
- Bone Scans are 90% sensitive but only 50% specific for stress fractures



## Injured Athlete: Stress Fractures

### Treatment

### REST

- Alleviate activity causing stress; cross train
- Evaluate and correct any biomechanical issue
- Correct nutritional deficiencies; Vit. D
- Gradual return to play progression after pain free

### t MRI 1.5T MRI\_UBC 4a<sup>S</sup> 4b ausing Cor FSTIR



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### Injured Athlete: Spondylolysis



- Defect or stress fracture to the pars interarticularis
  - Most commonly occurs at L5; associated with repetitive lumbosacral ext.
- Pain with ext. and rotation (Stork); tight hamstrings
- Requires adequate rest to allow for healing



## Injured Athlete: Spondylolysis







## Injured Athlete: AC Joint Separation



- MOI: fall on shoulder
- Subjective: pain at AC joint
- Exam: noticeable deformity; piano key
- Non-op tx: Grade I-II
- Grade III: tx depending on symptoms/ function
- Operative tx: Grade IV-VI



### Injured Athlete: AC Joint Separation



**Rockwood Grading** I: sprain II: < 25 % III: 25-100 % **IV:** posterior V: > 100% • VI: Inferior



## Injured Athlete: AC Joint Separation







## Injured Athlete: GIRD

- Glenohumeral Internal Rotation Deficit
- May have increased external rotation; need to maintain 180 deg. arc of motion in throwers
- Can lead to internal impingement; posterior shoulder pain with abduction and external rotation
  - Tx: posterior capsule stretching





# Injured Athlete: GIRD





## Injured Athlete: GIRD





### Injured Athlete: Pectoralis Rupture

- Typically associated with bench pressing
- May experience "tearing" sensation
- Ecchymosis, swelling and deformity seen on exam
- Surgical repair for tendon avulsions







### Injured Athlete: Anterior Knee Pain



- Patella Tendonitis
- Patellofemoral Syndrome
- Pes Anserine Bursitis
- Remember to evaluate hip mechanics/ strength; muscle imbalances
- Avoid Open Kinetic Chain leg extension



# Injured Athlete: TFCC







### Injured Athlete: TFCC





- Triangular Fibrocartilage Complex
- Helps stabilize DRUJ
- MOI: FOOSH
- Pain with ulnar deviation (compression) and radial deviation (tension)
- Pain with turning key
- Tx: Surgical repair



## Injured Athlete: Return to Play



Full Range of Motion Full Strength Ability to protect self Taping/bracing if necessary Complete functional testing







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