

# Concussion Leaves Clues in the Blood

## Student Comprehension Worksheet

**Directions:** After reading "[Concussion leaves clues in the blood](#)," answer the following questions.

1. What is a concussion and how is it typically diagnosed?
2. Why is the current method for diagnosing concussions not always reliable?
3. How many sports-related concussions are reported by college athletes in the United States each year?
4. What are biomarkers and how do scientists hope to use them in concussion diagnoses? Could biomarkers replace current concussion diagnostic methods?
5. What did the research study described in the article find? What data supported that result?
6. Why did scientists measure blood protein levels of athletes that didn't have concussions?
7. What potential concussion biomarkers did the scientists find? What do the biomarkers have in common?
8. Were there any issues, limitations or gaps in the study? Are the biomarkers ready to be used to diagnose concussions? Explain.
9. Can you think of a next step for scientists?