RFP: Shoulder Pad Related Injury  
Proposal Due By: June 30, 2021  
NOCSAE®

**NOCSAE Background:**

The National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment or NOCSAE is an independent and nonprofit standards development body with the sole mission to enhance athletic safety through scientific research and the creation of performance standards for athletic equipment. Since its inception in 1969, NOCSAE has been a leading force in the effort to improve athletic equipment, and to reduce injuries through robust standards for athletic equipment. NOCSAE develops voluntary performance and test standards for athletic equipment that are available for adoption by any athletic regulatory body.

**Project Overview:**

Currently, there is a paucity of epidemiological data on the interaction with the shoulder pad as a mechanism of injury (either to the shoulder pad wearer or the player who strikes the shoulder pad). These injuries would include, but are not limited to, the shoulder, chest, neck, and head. The purpose of this RFP is to seek prospective or retrospective injury data related to the interaction of the player/shoulder pad.

**Project Goals:**

- To determine if contact with the shoulder pad is a significant mechanism of injury to the shoulder/chest/neck/and head
- To determine if injury epidemiology data related to contact with the shoulder pad warrants further research
- To determine if the injury epidemiology data supports the development of a NOCSAE standard for a shoulder pad

“Commissioning research and establishing standards for athletic equipment, where feasible, and encouraging dissemination of research findings on athletic equipment and sports injuries.”
**Scope of Work:**

This project would involve prospective epidemiological data collection, or retrospective review of epidemiological injury data to evaluate the impact contact of the shoulder pad as an injury mechanism in the athlete.

**Current Roadblocks and Barriers to Success**

- There is limited current literature on the impact of the shoulder pad as an injury mechanism
- Retrospective review of injury epidemiology may be limited in detail about equipment worn at the time of injury

**Evaluation Metrics and Criteria**

- Thorough and feasible methodology to answer the project goals
- Study to be completed in 1 year
- Research investigators with the experience and resources to complete the project

**Submission Requirements**

- Research Strategy
- Investigator Biographical Sketches
- Budget

**Proposal Due** by June 30, 2021. Please submit proposals to Dr. Mueller by email.

**Budget:** Not to exceed $100,000

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