

CONCUSSION WORKING GROUP UPDATE

2025



IMMEDIATE AND DELAYED RECALL - CHANGES

Players utilizing multiple guesses from learned lists

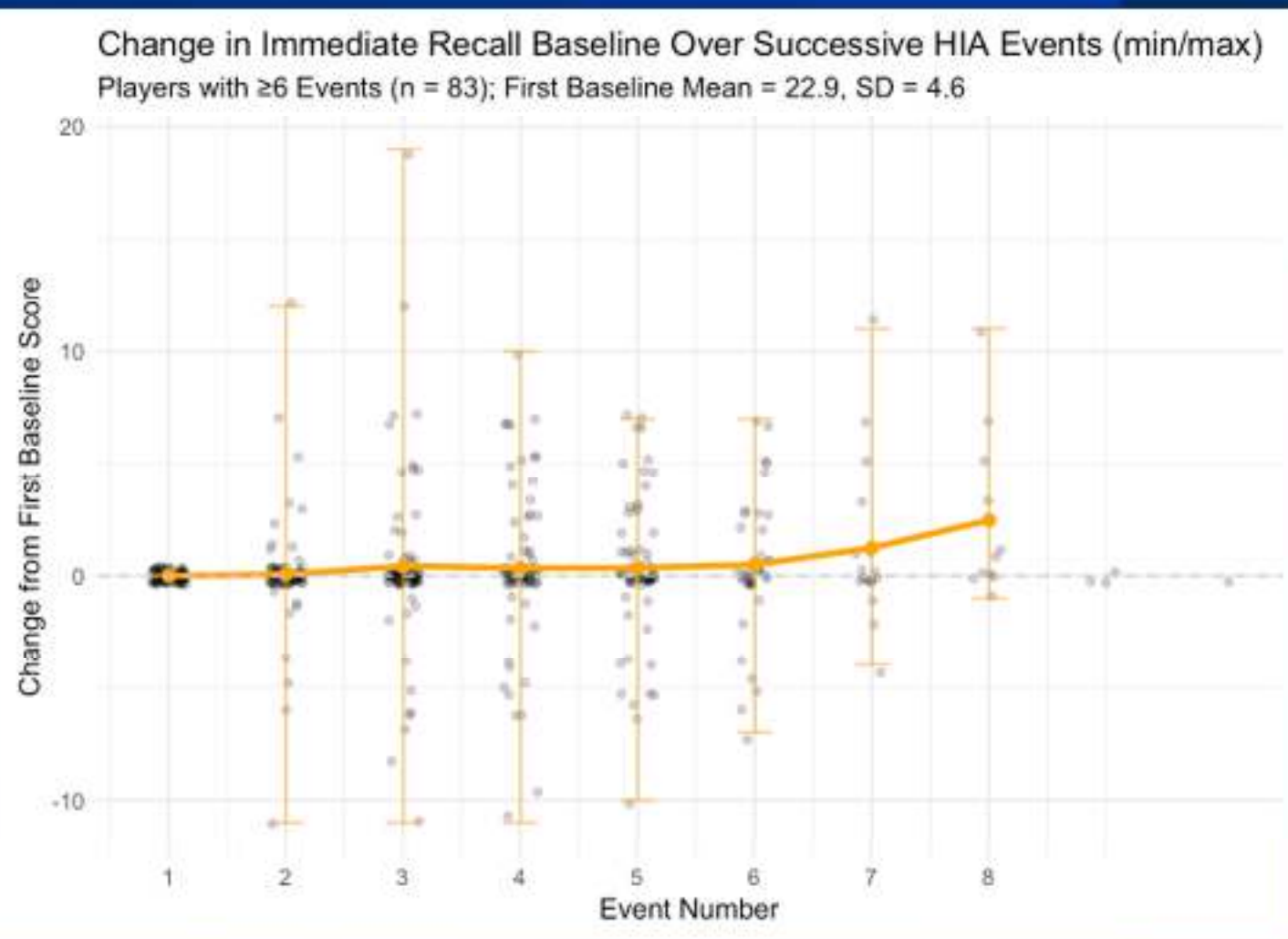
- assessing learned knowledge rather than new learning
- unlimited guesses not how designed
- familiarity (World Rugby specific) – learned lists

Changes:

Limit Guesses to 10 only – any word lists not previously read is a ‘missed’ word

Lists changed

New lists under development



IMMEDIATE AND DELAYED RECALL - CHANGES

Changes will likely raise 'test ceiling'

- New baselines required
- 5 minutes between Immediate memory & delayed recall testing required
- Familiarity of lists no longer present

Changes:

Delivering test – error recording – counts as a guess

Only 10 guesses allowed

Ability to correct entry errors

3:37

< Baseline Retest

Memory

Ed Demo

Instructions/Help

Memory Score 4 / 8 1 Error

Trial 1 2 3

Error - Pick List Word

Mirror	Wagon
Cotton	Monkey
Bubble	Iron
Arrow	Honey
Blanket	Helmet

NEXT TRIAL

SYMPTOMS

Continue to collect symptom baseline annually as a 'check in' with players:

- Educate Team Doctors that this is a useful player contact and follow-up on positives
- Educate Team Doctors & Players that baseline will not relate to HIA1, 2 or 3
- Requirement to 'repeat' after 24 hrs removed as it this only relates to 'how you feel today'

During HIA1

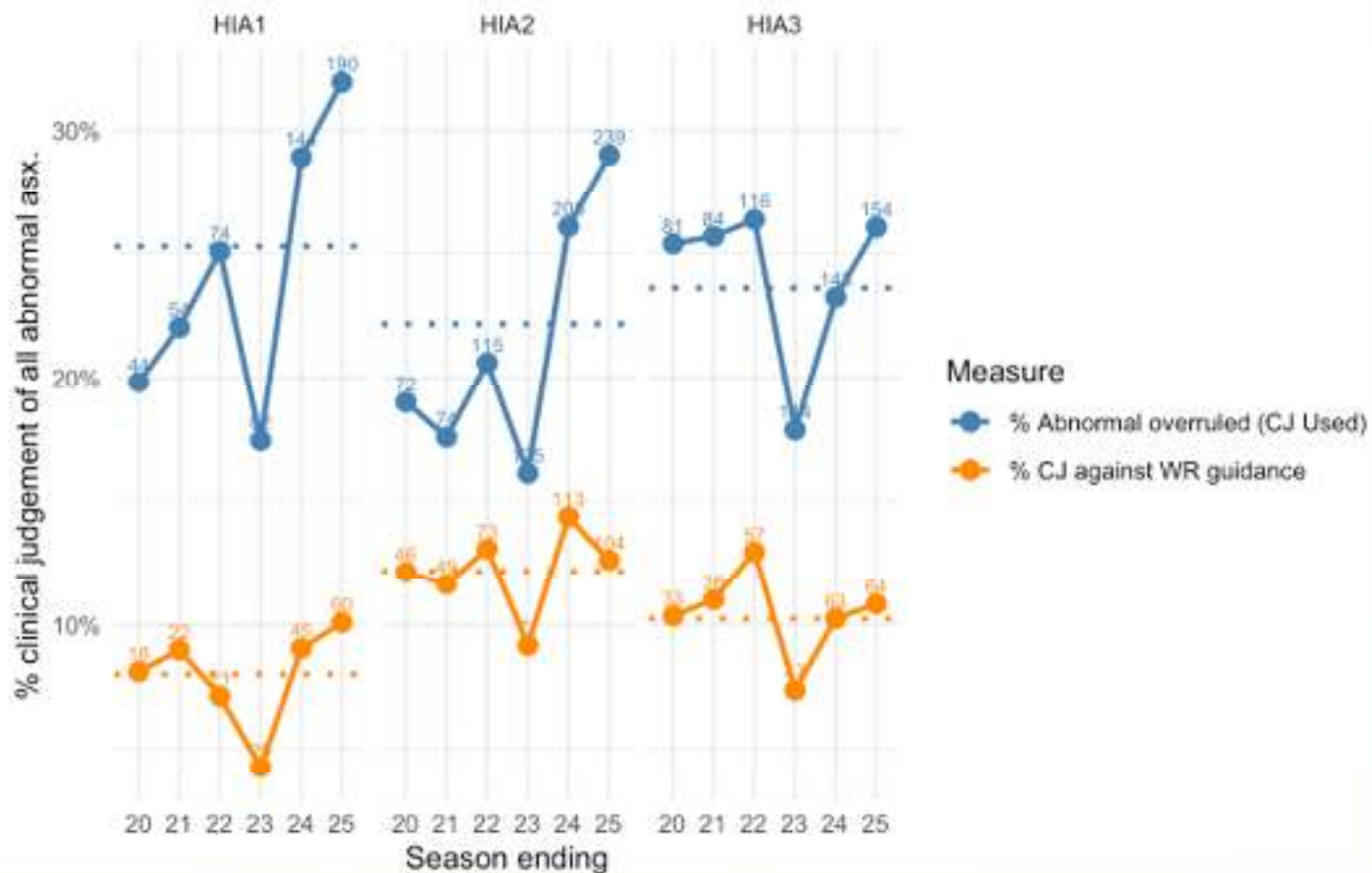
Symptoms endorsed at baseline no longer referred to.

During HIA2 & HIA3

Symptoms endorsed at baseline no longer referred to.

Clinical judgement (CJ) in abnormal assessments - men's competitions

Dotted lines=2020-2023 ave.; count (n) at each point



CLINICAL JUDGEMENT

Clinical judgement must be within Clinical Judgement guidelines

Improve education around clinical judgement

Involve MDD in decision for both HIA1 and HIA2

HIA2 at ground

Agreed outcome

If the TD wishes to overrule the HIA3 it has to be discussed with original MDD and agreed.

At all stages if clinical judgement exceeds guidelines the doctor is warned

Clinical Signs



This HIA can not be overruled as it is over the limit for an overrule in accordance with the World Rugby Guidelines.

COMPLETE HIA

Maddocks Abnormal



This HIA can not be overruled as it is over the limit for an overrule in accordance with the World Rugby Guidelines.

COMPLETE HIA

Symptoms Abnormal



This HIA can not be overruled as it is over the limit for an overrule in accordance with the World Rugby Guidelines.

COMPLETE HIA

2 Cognitive modes Abnormal



This HIA can not be overruled as it is
over the limit for an overrule in
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Guidelines.

COMPLETE HIA

Multiple Modes Abnormal

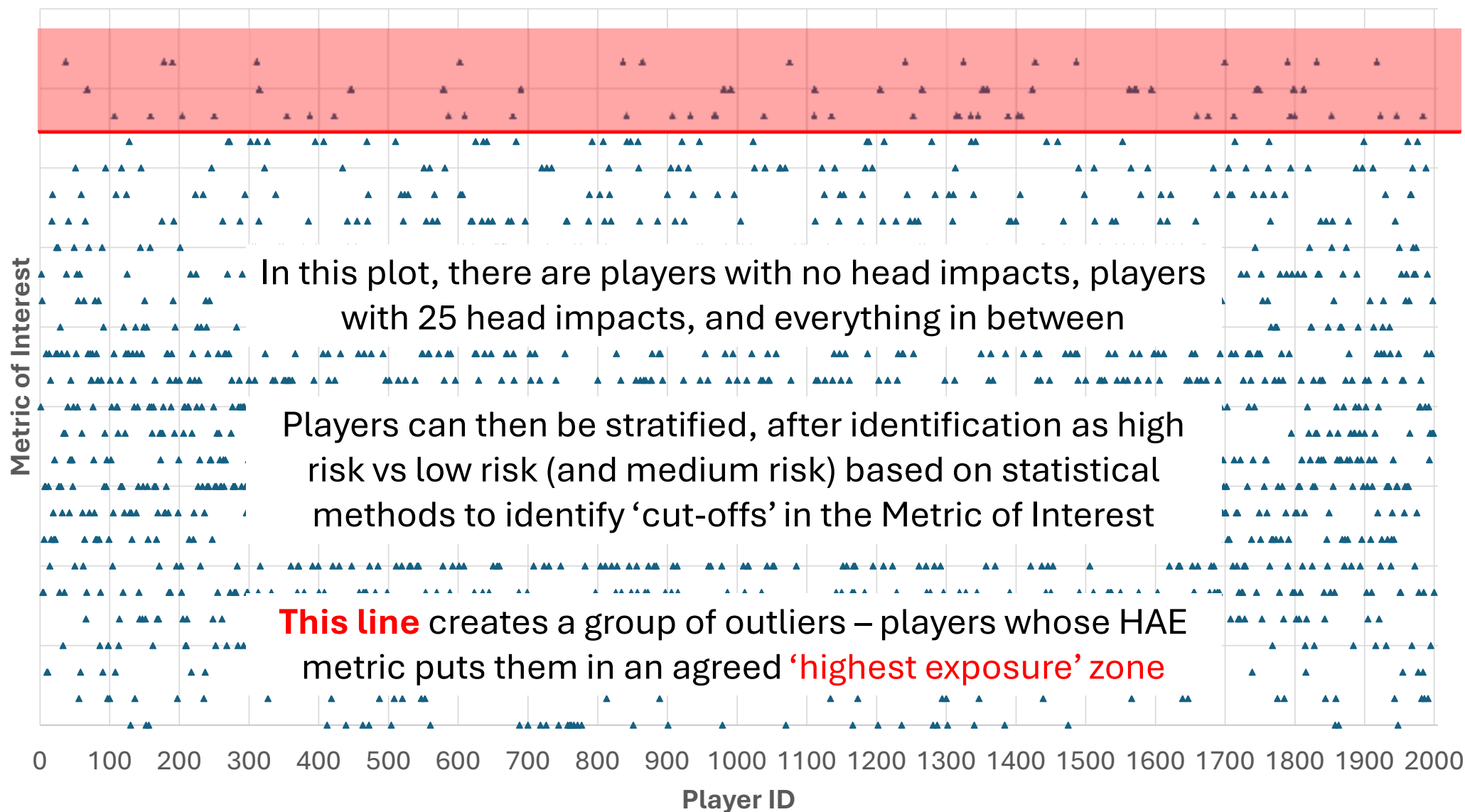


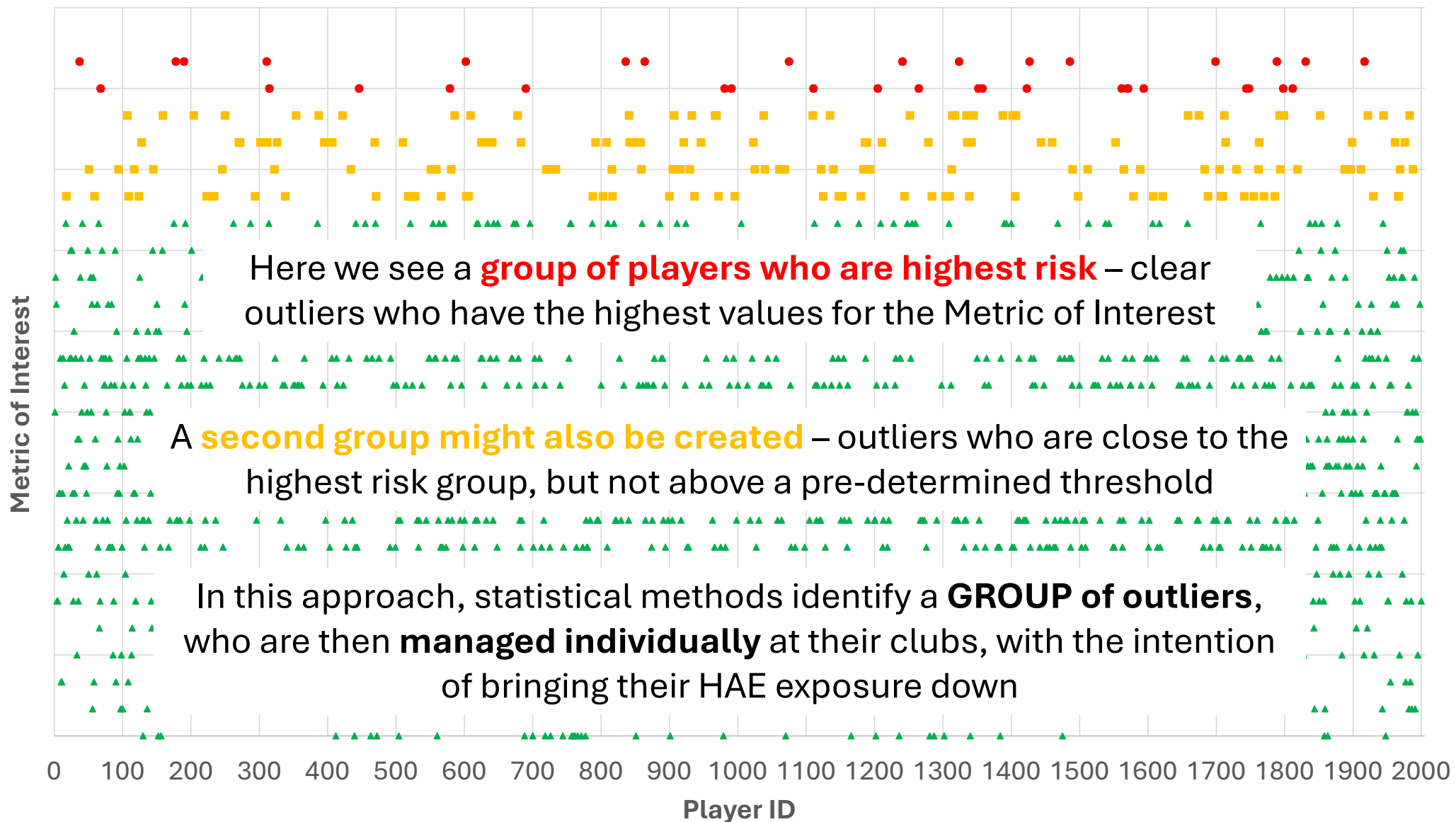
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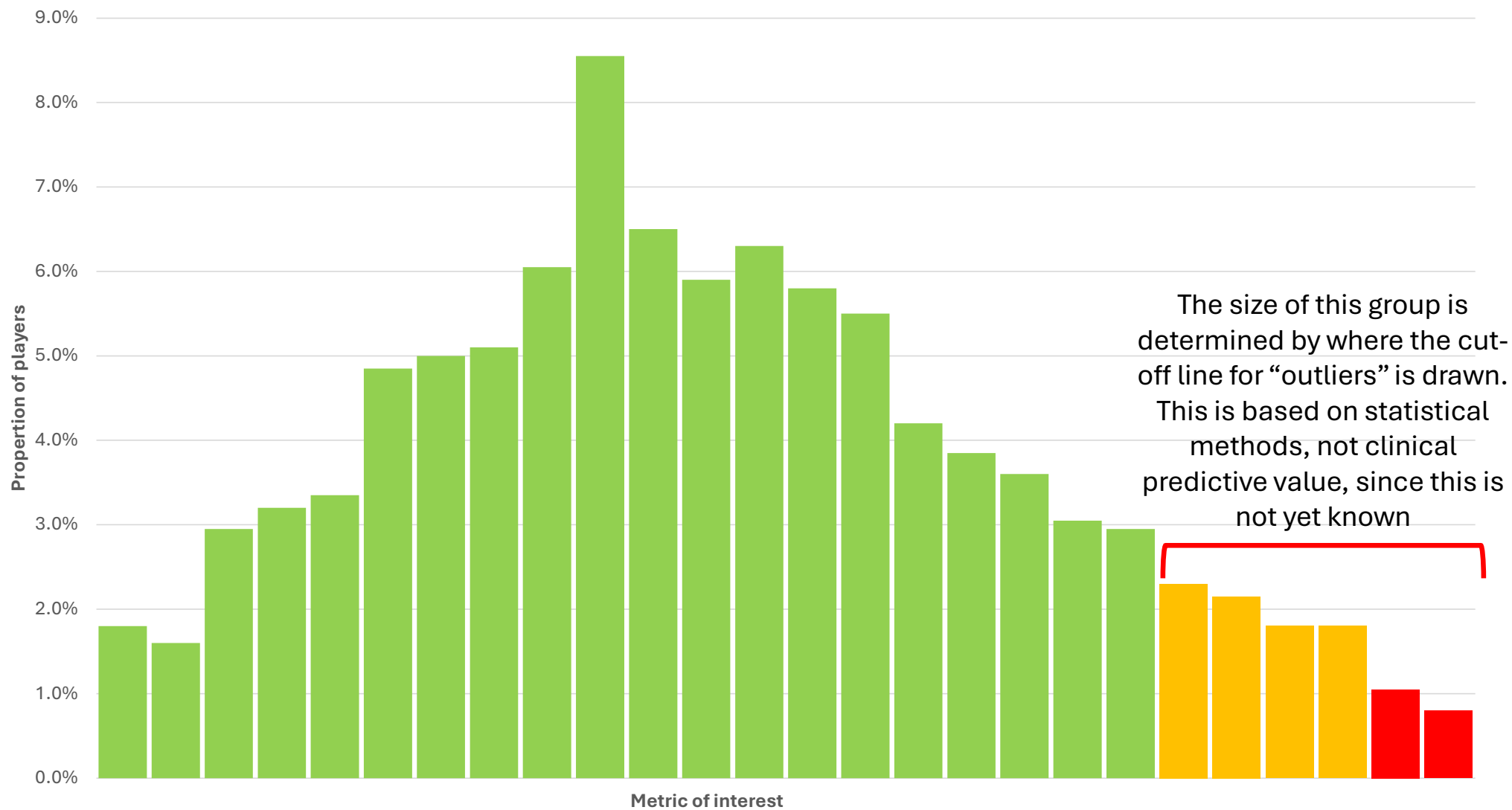
COMPLETE HIA











Consideration of the IMG alert off-field screen removal thresholds in Women's Club Rugby

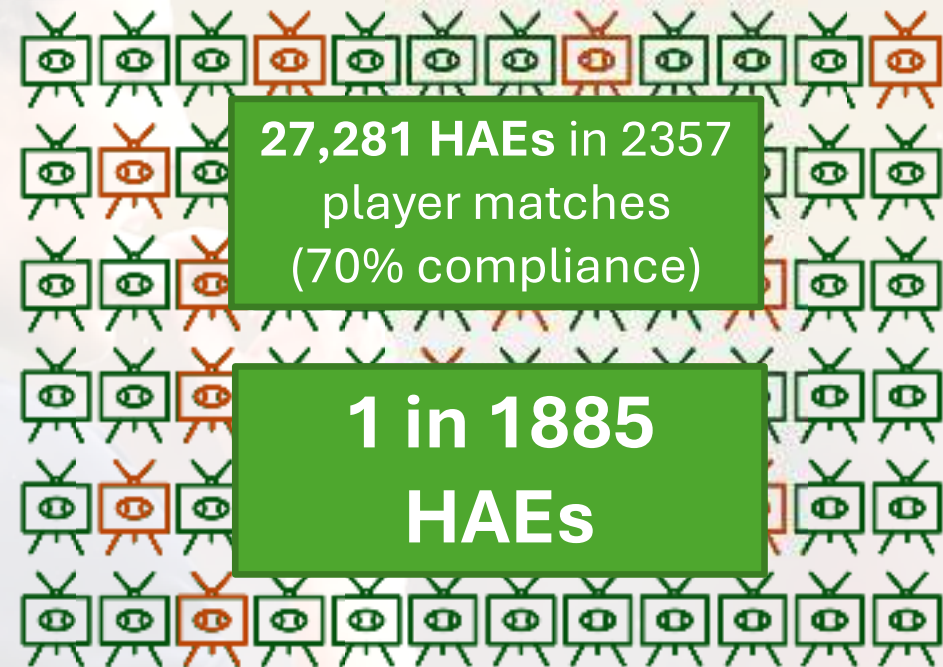
1 in 1000 impact (99.9th)

Acceptable sensitivity and PPV

1 in 1000 impacts, 1 every 2 matches

Challenge

- Threshold decision was based on a smaller sample than was available in men, and a mix of international and domestic games
- The highest level of international rugby suggested more frequent HAEs, with more high magnitude events
- To achieve the objectives, the threshold was set lower than in men, but based on projected “highest case scenario” from top level international rugby



72 matches

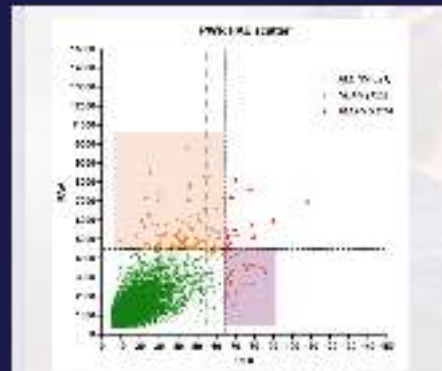
15 IMG alerts

Women's domestic game IMG threshold



GAME LEVEL

Initial threshold 2022 –
4500rads 55g
Increased after WXV –
4500 rads 65g



WOMEN VS MEN

Similar concussion incidence
Lower HAE magnitude and
frequency
Assessment frequency
considerably lower



LEVEL SPECIFIC TARGET

WXV3 & Domestic Elite
Target 1:1000 event at 70%
uptake
55g 4500rad/s

A black and white photograph of a female rugby player, likely a member of the New Zealand Black Ferns team, celebrating with her mouth wide open and hands on her hips. She is wearing a dark jersey with the World Rugby logo, the Black Ferns crest, and the Adidas logo. Other players are visible in the background, also celebrating.

THANK YOU