



*Enhancing Neurological Recovery
Through Vision Rehabilitation*



**Joint Brain Injury Policy Statement by
College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) and
Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association (NORA)
February 19, 2019**

WHEREAS, research has shown a significantly high prevalence of changes to visual function, the eye and adnexa as well as visual symptoms related to binocular, accommodative, eye movement dysfunctions and visual processing deficits as a consequence of brain injuries, including concussions, and

WHEREAS, the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) and the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association (NORA) have developed resources addressing the diagnosis and management of visual dysfunctions and visual processing deficits, associated with brain injuries, including concussions; and

WHEREAS, Doctors of Optometry are educated and trained to diagnose and manage ocular diseases, visual, ocular dysfunctions and visual processing deficits related to brain injuries, including concussions; and
WHEREAS, Doctors of Optometry serve an integral role as members of healthcare teams devoted to the care of brain injured patients; therefore be it now

RESOLVED, that the College of Optometrists in Vision Development and the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association urge all healthcare professionals to consider the possibility that a patient's ocular or visual signs or symptoms may have been a result of a brain injury, including a concussion; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the College of Optometrists in Vision Development and the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association recommend an optometric evaluation to determine the presence of brain injury-related ocular changes, visual dysfunctions and visual processing deficits for persons who have sustained a brain injury, including a concussion, and to provide medical and/or functional optometric rehabilitation services.