



Are Externalizing Behaviours Linked To Concussion In Child Athletes?

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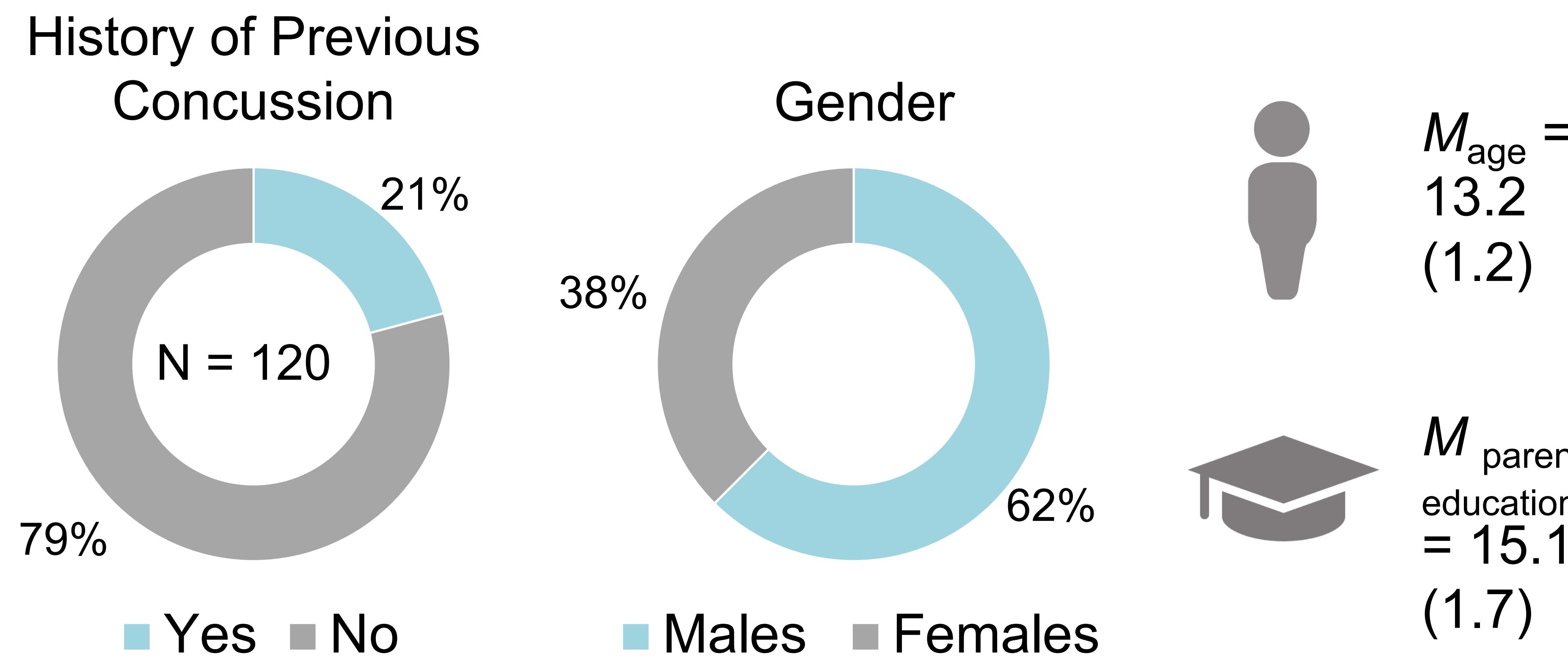
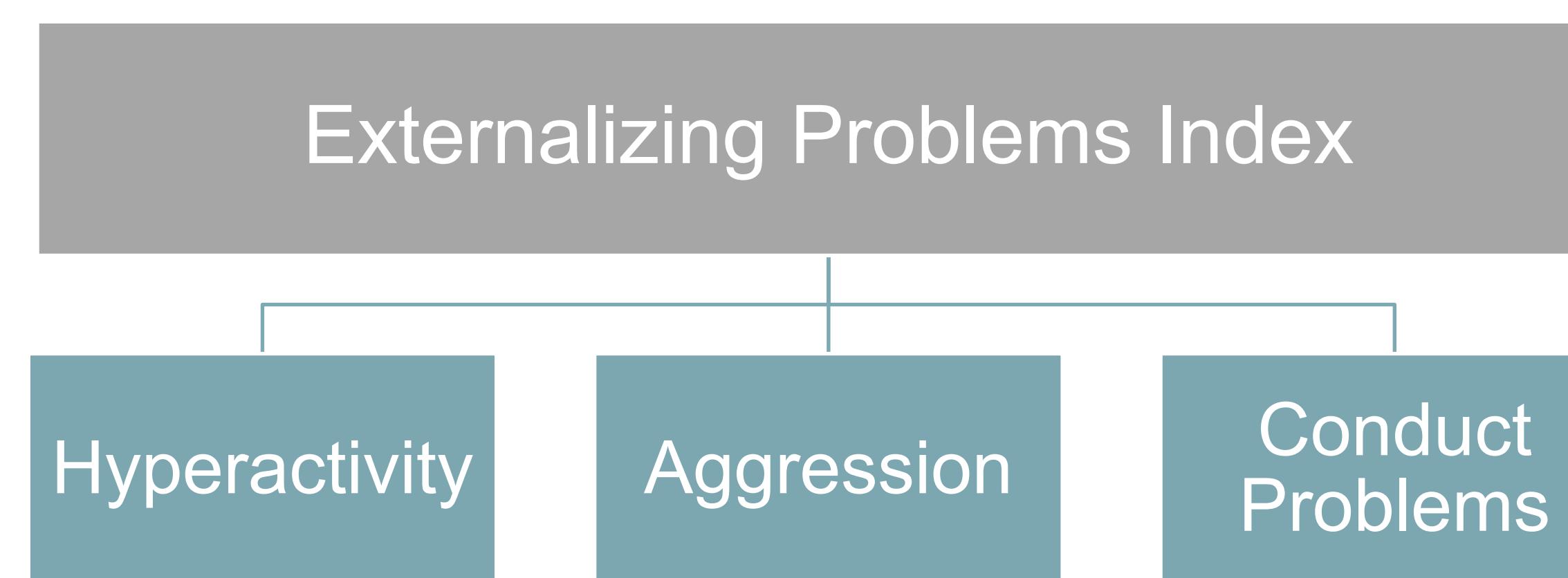
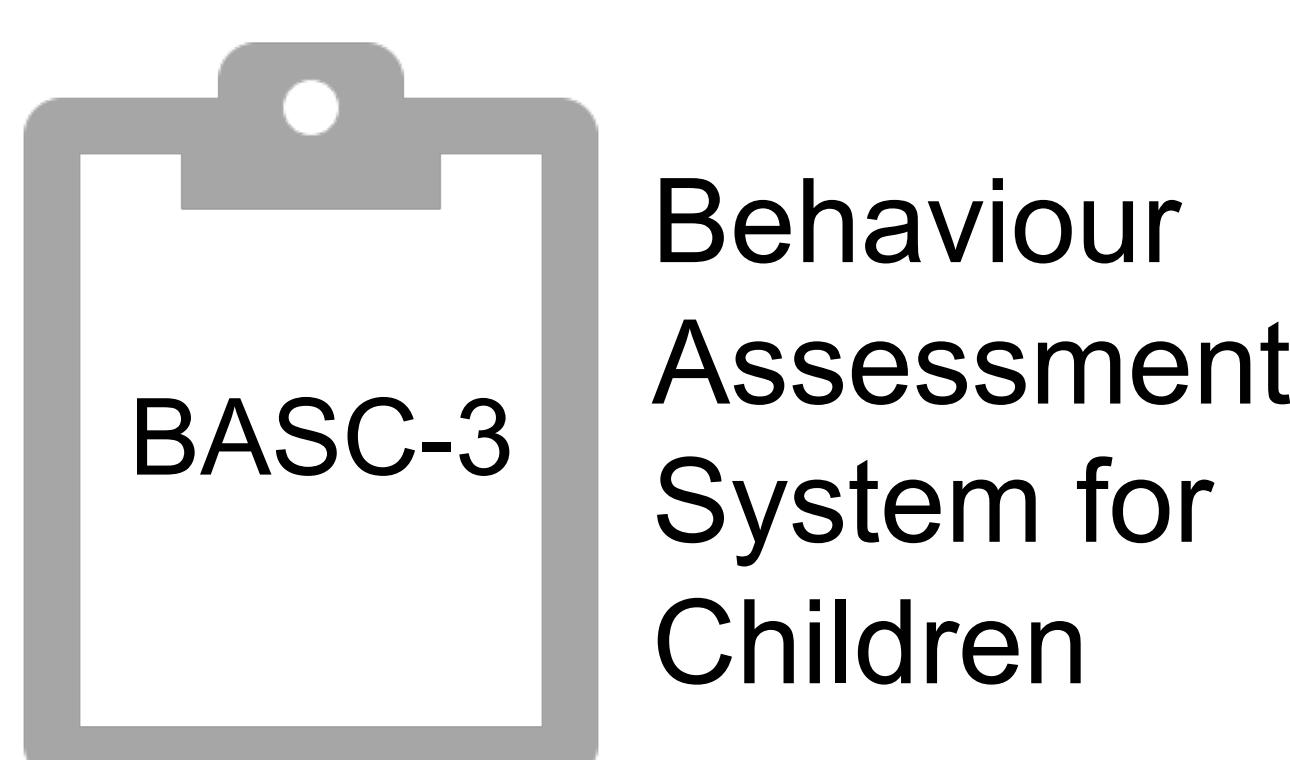
Introduction

- Adult athletes with a history of concussion often report higher rates of externalizing behaviours such as aggression¹⁻³ and impulsivity.⁴
- Few studies conducted with children have found higher rates of impulsivity and aggression in those with a history of concussion.⁵⁻⁶
- Fewer studies have examined this relationship in child athletes, and none has examined several dimensions of externalizing behavior within a single sample.

Objective

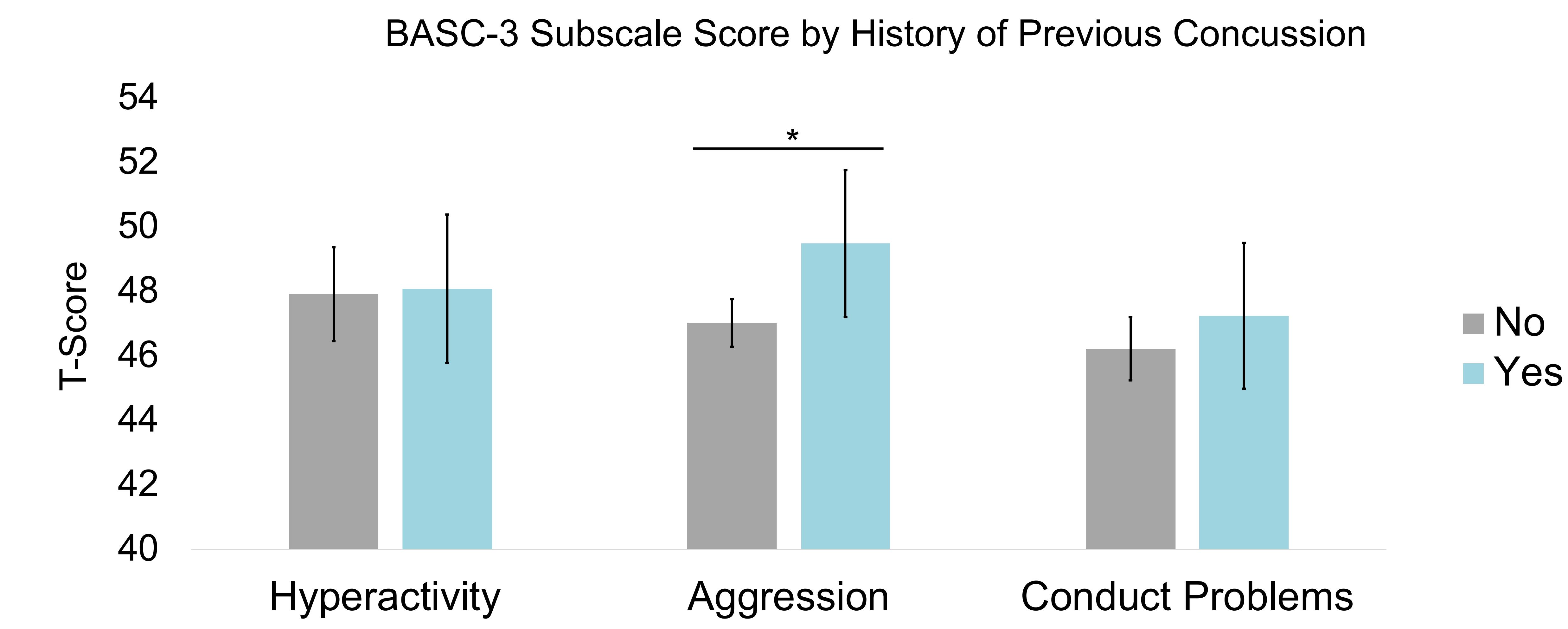
To examine multiple types of externalizing behaviour among child athletes with and without a history of concussion.

Methods



Results

MANOVA of BASC-3 Externalizing Subscales					
Effect	Pillai's Trace	F	df	p	η^2_P
Intercept	.998	210170.37	3, 116	< .001	.998
Concussion History	.069	2.86	3, 116	0.04	.069



Discussion

- History of concussion in child athletes was associated with higher levels of externalizing behaviours.
- This association was driven largely by the observed link between concussion history and aggressive behavior.
- Although the causal direction is unclear, researchers increasingly postulate that higher levels of trait aggression put athletes at greater risk for concussion.
- These findings should be taken into consideration when determining potential risk factors for concussion among child athletes.

References

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