

Ravindra injured by ball to face in Lahore Tri-Nation match



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New Zealand's Rachin Ravindra is recovering after being struck in the face by a ball during the opening match of the tri-nations series in Lahore on Saturday.

While fielding at deep square leg, Ravindra appeared to lose sight of the ball under the Gaddafi Stadium floodlights, causing him to misjudge a catch attempt against Pakistan's Khushdil Shah in the 38th over. The impact resulted in blood pouring from his forehead, leading to immediate treatment on the field.

The 25-year-old was later seen leaving the ground with a bandaged forehead. New Zealand confirmed he had suffered a cut but was otherwise well and had passed his first Head Injury Assessment (HIA).

"He's been conscious the whole time, which is fantastic," said teammate Glenn Phillips. "It was a pretty terrifying moment, but he's being monitored, and I'm sure he'll be ready to go soon."

New Zealand later confirmed that Ravindra was unlikely to play against South Africa after sustaining a forehead laceration requiring stitches. He will continue to be monitored under HIA protocols.

Earlier, Ravindra scored 25 from 19 balls as New Zealand posted 330/6, eventually winning by 78 runs. Phillips, who scored his maiden ODI century (106* from 74 balls), was named Player of the

Match.