Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy and the Long-Term Consequences of Repetitive Head Impacts

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Abstract: Chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) is a neurodegenerative disease diagnosed neuropathologically in individuals with a history of exposure to repetitive head impacts (RHI). CTE has received increased attention due to a growing number of deceased former NFL players being diagnosed with the disease postmortem. CTE can only be diagnosed by neuropathological examination. However, provisional clinical research diagnostic criteria have been proposed and studies are underway to develop neuroimaging and fluid biomarkers to diagnose CTE during life. This presentation will provide an overview of what is currently known about CTE, as well critical knowledge gaps and current and future directions in research.