



# CONCUSSIONS IN KIDS ARE DETECTABLE BY BLOOD TEST

Researchers find new biomarker in blood that appears only in traumatic brain injuries

Orlando Health

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<b>SUGGESTED TEASE</b>	<p>STILL TO COME, A NEW BLOOD TEST THAT CAN DETECT CONCUSSIONS IN CHILDREN.</p> <p>WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT WORKS AND WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILD, NEXT IN HEALTH NEWS.</p>
<b>ANCHOR LEAD</b>	<p>IF YOU'RE THE PARENT OF A CHILD WHO PLAYS SPORTS, YOU'LL WANT TO HEAR THIS NEXT STORY.</p> <p>A NEW STUDY IS OUT SHOWING THAT RESEARCHERS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DETECT CONCUSSIONS IN CHILDREN.. <i>USING A SIMPLE BLOOD TEST.</i><sup>1</sup></p> <p>AS CLARK POWELL SHOWS US, THIS TEST COULD HELP TAKE THE GUESS WORK OUT OF DIAGNOSING CONCUSSIONS AND KEEP KIDS SAFER IN THE FUTURE.</p>
	(Nats - Mom cheering for daughter at soccer practice) :01
<p><b>CG: Courtesy: Orlando Health</b></p> <p>Shots of Misty watching practice</p> <p>Shots of girl playing goalie</p>	<p>IT'S ESTIMATED A QUARTER OF A MILLION KIDS A YEAR END UP IN THE HOSPITAL WITH CONCUSSIONS FROM PLAYING SPORTS<sup>2</sup> - AND KATE RATLIFF WAS ONE OF THEM.</p> <p>KATE WAS DIVING FOR A BALL RECENTLY WHEN SHE COLLIDED WITH ANOTHER PLAYER - AND AT FIRST, DIDN'T SEEM TO BE SERIOUSLY HURT. :13</p>
<p><b>CG: Misty Ratliff</b></p> <p><b>Daughter suffered a concussion</b></p>	<p>"We actually didn't get her checked out right away because she didn't have the symptoms right at the beginning, but a couple of hours later she started vomiting and had a headache." :07</p>
<p>Shot of child in exam</p> <p>Shot of doctor checking pupils</p>	<p>THAT'S NOT UNCOMMON. SYMPTOMS OF A CONCUSSION IN A CHILD CAN BE SUBTLE AND DELAYED. AND THE LONGER IT'S LEFT UNTREATED, THE WORSE THE DAMAGE CAN BE.</p> <p>:07</p>
<p><b>CG: Linda Papa, MD, MSC</b></p> <p><b>Orlando Health</b></p>	<p>"There really is a need to try to detect these injuries early. And with the tools we have now, they're really not sensitive enough to detect all of these injuries." :10</p>
<p>Shots of researchers with blood serum</p> <p>Shots of CT scan</p>	<p>SO DOCTOR LINDA PAPA AND HER TEAM OF RESEARCHERS AT ORLANDO HEALTH HAVE DEVELOPED A WAY TO DETECT EVEN MILD CONCUSSIONS USING A SIMPLE BLOOD TEST.</p> <p>IN A RECENT STUDY, SHE TOOK BLOOD FROM 152 CHILDREN WHO HAD BRAIN INJURIES - THEN GAVE EACH A</p>

<p>Shots of Dr. Papa at computer</p> <p>Shots of team working with blood</p> <p>Shots of Dr. Papa with colleague at computer</p>	<p>C-T SCAN.</p> <p>AS EXPECTED, THE SCANS DETECTED EVEN SMALL LESIONS ON THE BRAIN.</p> <p>BUT SO DID THE BLOOD TESTS. BIOMARKERS IN THE BLOOD IDENTIFIED BRAIN INJURIES WITH 94-PERCENT ACCURACY, AND EVEN TOLD DOCTORS HOW SEVERE THE INJURIES WERE. :28</p>
<p><b>Linda Papa, MD (CG'd earlier)</b></p>	<p>“We’re looking at different types of lesions we find on CT scan, those that are more severe than less severe, and the biomarker actually is elevated in the more severe injuries.” :10</p>
<p>Shots of diabetes finger prick</p> <p>Shots of kids practicing soccer</p>	<p>THE TEST COULD LEAD TO A DEVICE LIKE THOSE USED IN DIABETES - ONE THAT WOULD ANALYZE A DROP OF BLOOD TO DIAGNOSE A CONCUSSION ON THE SPOT. :08</p>
<p><b>Linda Papa, MD (CG'd earlier)</b></p>	<p>“The idea is to try to get a point-of-care test that could be used on the field, to help the coaches, and the trainers and the athletic directors, make a decision about whether the child should go back to play.” :10</p>
<p>Shot of Kate coming off the field, high fiving mom</p>	<p>WHICH WOULD OFFER PLAYERS MORE PROTECTION, AND PARENTS MORE PEACE OF MIND. AT ORLANDO HEALTH, THIS IS CLARK POWELL REPORTING. :07</p>
<p><b>ANCHOR TAG</b></p>	<p>RESEARCHERS SAY THE TEST IS SO ACCURATE BECAUSE IT LOOKS FOR A BIOMARKER IN THE BLOOD KNOWN AS G-F-A-P.</p> <p>THAT’S A PROTEIN FOUND IN THE BRAIN THAT IS ONLY RELEASED INTO THE BLOODSTREAM WHEN THERE IS AN INJURY. THE STUDY IS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL <i>ACADEMIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE</i>.</p>
<p> <b>Share it! Suggested tweet:</b></p>	<p>Researchers <a href="https://twitter.com/orlandohealth">@orlandohealth</a> develop blood test that can detect concussions in children. Details: <a href="https://bit.ly/1KpliAb">bit.ly/1KpliAb</a></p>
<p> <b>Suggested post:</b></p>	<p>We may soon be able to diagnose children with concussions within moments of their injury, thanks to a blood test developed by scientists at <a href="https://www.orlandohealth.com">Orlando Health</a>. Because symptoms can be subtle and inconsistent, diagnosing kids with concussions is tricky. But now, researchers have identified a biomarker in the blood that can not only tell them which children have concussions, it can distinguish which cases are mild and which are severe. To learn more about the blood test click here: <a href="https://bit.ly/1KpliAb">bit.ly/1KpliAb</a></p>
<p><b>References -</b></p>	<p><sup>1</sup><i>Performance of Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein (GFAP) in Detecting Traumatic Intracranial Lesions on CT in Children and Youth with Mild Head Trauma, Academic Emergency Medicine, August 2015.</i></p> <p><sup>2</sup><i>Traumatic Brain Injury in the United States: Fact Sheet, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, online:</i> <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/get_the_facts.html">http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/get_the_facts.html</a></p>
	<p><b>Extra Bites</b></p>

<p><b>CG: Linda Papa, MD, MSC Orlando Health</b></p>	<p><i>Dr. Papa talks about the need for a simple test for concussions -</i>          “We have so many diagnostic tests for different parts of the body, we have blood tests for the heart and blood tests for the kidneys and the liver, there is no blood test for the brain.” :10</p> <p><i>Dr. Papa talks about the development of her blood test -</i>          “Over the last 14 years we’ve gradually developed this test to become more and more sensitive, to the point that now, we can detect it in serum. Just a simple blood test will tell us if some of these proteins, that are released from the brain after an injury, are detected in the blood.” :17</p> <p><i>Dr. Papa talks about the potential for an on-the-spot concussion blood test-</i>          “That’s the hope, is that just a small prick, like we do with diabetes, to put it on a little slide and put it in a machine and to be able to get a reading from that so, that’s what we’re ultimately hoping will happen.” :12</p>
<p><b>CG: Misty Ratliff Daughter suffered a concussion</b></p>	<p><i>Misty talks about the day her daughter Kate was injured -</i>          “She is a goalie and she was coming after the ball and a girl was coming after her as well, and they - she got kicked in the head.” :08</p> <p><i>Misty talks about the affects of her daughters concussion -</i>          “She was out for 2 weeks and the downtime was she was not to do electronics or watch TV, no reading, a lot of just relaxing.” :08</p>
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