

# BLOOD TEST DETECTS CONCUSSIONS FOR UP TO A WEEK



*Researchers identify a biomarker unique to head injuries,*

**\*\*\*NOTE: Embargoed until Monday March 28, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. \*\*\***

*Orlando Health*

Produced by: MediaSource <a href="http://www.mediasourcetv.com">www.mediasourcetv.com</a>	To download broadcast-quality video and other multimedia elements: <a href="http://bit.ly/link_here">bit.ly link here</a>
Package Length: 1:38	Content provided by: <b>Orlando Health</b>

<b>SUGGESTED TEASE</b>	<p>STILL TO COME, A NEW BLOOD TEST THAT CAN DETECT CONCUSSIONS UP TO A WEEK AFTER A HEAD INJURY. WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT WORKS AND WHY IT COULD BE AN IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGH, NEXT IN HEALTH NEWS.</p>
<b>ANCHOR LEAD</b>	<p>A NEW STUDY IS OUT SHOWING FOR THE FIRST TIME RESEARCHERS WERE ABLE TO DIAGNOSE CONCUSSIONS IN PATIENTS UP TO A <i>WEEK</i> AFTER THEY WERE INJURED. AND THEY DID IT BY USING A SIMPLE BLOOD TEST.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>THAT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE THE SYMPTOMS OF A CONCUSSION CAN BE SUBTLE OR DELAYED AND CAN GO UNDIAGNOSED, ESPECIALLY IN CHILDREN.</p> <p>BUT AS CLARK POWELL SHOWS US, THIS NEW BLOOD TEST COULD CHANGE THAT.</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. 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><b>1.00.43 - 1.00.50</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 / :20</p>
<p>Shot of child in exam</p> <p>Shot of patient getting CT scan</p>	<p>THAT'S NOT UNCOMMON. SIGNS OF A CONCUSSION ARE OFTEN DELAYED AND IF IT TAKES A FEW DAYS FOR SYMPTOMS TO SETTLE IN, THE ONLY RELIABLE WAY TO DIAGNOSE A PATIENT IS WITH A C-T SCAN. :10 / :30</p>
<p><b>CG: Linda Papa, MD, MSC</b></p> <p><b>Orlando Health</b></p> <p><b>1.08.41 - 1.08.52</b></p>	<p>"You really want to minimize the amount of CTs you do to your patients, particularly children, because they are a lot more sensitive to radiation and the bad side effects that come with that." :11 / :41</p>
Shots of researchers with blood	<p>SO DOCTOR LINDA PAPA AND HER TEAM AT ORLANDO HEALTH DEVELOPED A SIMPLE BLOOD TEST THAT CAN NOT ONLY DETECT A CONCUSSION, BUT A NEW STUDY SHOWS,</p>

<p>Shots of researchers working in lab</p> <p>Shots of Dr. Papa at computer</p>	<p>THE RESULTS ARE RELIABLE UP TO A WEEK AFTER INJURY. SCIENTISTS STUDIED NEARLY 600 PATIENTS OVER 3 YEARS, FOCUSING ON BIOMARKERS IN THE BLOOD KNOWN AS G-FAP. :18 / :59</p>
<p><b>Linda Papa, MD (CG'd earlier)</b> <b>1.03.40 - 1.03.48</b></p>	<p>“The markers that we are looking at are really specific to the brain and are not released through any other parts of the body which is what make them so unique.” :08 / 1:07</p>
<p>Shots of research team</p> <p>Shots of child in exam</p> <p>Shots of CT images on computer</p> <p>Shot of blood in vile</p>	<p>AND THE FACT THEY'RE PRESENT IN BLOOD SO LONG, COULD EXTEND THE WINDOW FOR DIAGNOSIS. LEFT UNTREATED, CONCUSSIONS CAN LEAD TO LONG-TERM PROBLEMS LIKE DIZZINESS, HEADACHES AND DEPRESSION.</p> <p>THE PROBLEM IS, PAPA SAYS MANY PATIENTS, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN, DON'T ALWAYS ARTICULATE SYMPTOMS AT THE TIME OF INJURY.</p> <p>NOW, DOCTORS MAY BE ABLE TO DETECT EVEN SUBTLE CONCUSSIONS - EVEN IF IT'S DAYS LATER. :20 / 1:27</p>
<p><b>Linda Papa, MD (CG'd earlier)</b> <b>1.05.36 - 1.05.45</b></p>	<p>“With the tools we have now, they're really not sensitive enough to detect all of these injuries. So, we're hoping that the blood test will be that tool.” :09 / 1:36</p>
<p>Shot of Kate walking off field</p>	<p>AT ORLANDO HEALTH, THIS IS CLARK POWELL REPORTING. :02 / 1:38</p>
<p><b>ANCHOR TAG</b></p>	<p>RIGHT NOW, DOCTORS OFTEN HAVE TO RELY ON PATIENTS TO SHARE THEIR SYMPTOMS IN ORDER TO DIAGNOSE A CONCUSSION AND ITS SEVERITY.</p> <p>THIS BLOOD TEST COULD TAKE THE GUESSWORK OUT OF MAKING A DIAGNOSIS, WHETHER A PATIENT IS SEEN IMMEDIATELY AFTER AN INJURY OR DAYS LATER.</p> <p>THE STUDY APPEARS IN THE JOURNAL <i>JAMA NEUROLOGY</i>.</p>
<p> <b>Share it! Suggested tweet:</b></p>	<p>Researchers <a href="#">@orlandohealth</a> develop a blood test that can detect concussions up to a week later: <a href="#">bit.ly link here</a></p>
<p> <b>Suggested post:</b></p>	<p>In a new study, researchers at <a href="#">Orlando Health</a> were able to detect concussions in patients up to a week after they were injured by using a simple blood test. Symptoms of a concussion can be subtle and are often delayed, sometimes for days. If patients resume normal activity too soon, they could be at risk for further complications. This test may extend the window of diagnosis, allowing doctors to detect even the most subtle concussions days after an injury occurs. Details: <a href="#">bit.ly link here</a></p>
<p><b>References -</b></p>	<p><i><sup>1</sup>Time Course and Diagnostic Accuracy of Glial and Neuronal Blood Biomarkers GFAP and UCH-L1 in a Large Cohort of Trauma Patients With and Without Mild Traumatic Brain Injury, <b>JAMA Neurology, Volume 73, Number 4, March 28, 2016.</b> Online: <a href="http://archneur.jamanetwork.com/journal.aspx">http://archneur.jamanetwork.com/journal.aspx</a></i></p>

	<p><sup>2</sup><i>Traumatic Brain Injury in the United States: Fact Sheet, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</i>, online:  <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/get_the_facts.html">http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/get_the_facts.html</a></p>
	<b>Extra Bites</b>
<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>
<p><b>Producers &amp; Reporters:</b></p>	<p><b>To download scripts, video and photos go to:</b>  <a href="http://www.multimedianewsroom.tv">http://www.multimedianewsroom.tv</a></p>

**For viewer information on this story contact:**

Orlando Health: (321) 841-8748  
[mediarelations@orlandohealth.com](mailto:mediarelations@orlandohealth.com)

Produced by:



1800 West 5th Ave.  
 Columbus, Ohio 43212  
 Phone: (614) 932-9950 Fax: (614) 932-9920  
[www.mediasourcetv.com](http://www.mediasourcetv.com)

**Video content provided by: Orlando Health  
 Media Relations Department: (321) 841-8748**