



Chronic traumatic encephalopathy – inside and outside of the sports arena

SEMINAR & VISITING SPEAKER SERIES

DATE

Friday, November 26, 2021
9:00AM

ZOOM LINK

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83594461654?pwd=cGR6OW96WTVGSkFXRDE5MGRKaDNXZz09>

MEETING ID

835 9446 1654

PASSCODE

771772

SPEAKER

Marc Del Bigio, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Professor - Department of Pathology (with cross appointment in Department of Human Anatomy and Cell Science)

Neuropathologist - Shared Health Manitoba / Diagnostic Services Manitoba

Investigator - Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba

BIO

MD (University of Manitoba) 1978-1982
PhD (University of Manitoba - Department of Anatomy) 1983-1987
Postdoc (University of Saskatchewan - neurobiology) 1989
Residency - neuropathology (University of Toronto) 1990-1993 with FRCPC
Postdoc (Université de Paris / INSERM U134 - neurobiology) 1994
Neuropathologist - Health Sciences Centre - Winnipeg 1994 to present
Canada Research Chair in Developmental Neuropathology (Tier 1) 2004-2018

RESEARCH

Chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) is a neurodegenerative phenomenon characterized by deposition of hyperphosphorylated tau protein in neurons and around blood vessels, principally at depths of cortical sulci. It is best characterized in athletes who had been engaged in contact sports and in military personnel subjected to blast trauma. CTE can also occur in persons with a history of street fighting or multiple falls, especially in the context of chronic substance abuse (e.g. alcohol, drugs). CTE has rarely been reported in older women with a history of domestic violence. The pathogenesis remains unclear because high fidelity animal models do not exist. Uncertainty remains about 1) the historical details that should trigger a search for CTE; and 2) the quantity of CTE-like histologic changes necessary to render a diagnosis of CTE.

OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the risk factors & diagnostic criteria for chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE)
2. Summarize the cell biology of microtubules and tau protein
3. Describe the limits of current understanding of CTE tauopathy

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