

BROADCAST-Testing the path for better concussion diagnosis

Ancho lead-in: Concussions seem to come with high-contact sports but if they aren't diagnosed immediately or symptoms aren't managed properly, it can mean long-term damage, and possibly death. So, Dr. Adam Cross at Peoria-based OSF HealthCare has developed FlightPath -- a game-based app that can diagnose a concussion within minutes. That app is now being tested on Central Illinois college athletes.

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FlightPath is being tested at Illinois State, Bradley and Illinois Wesleyan Universities. ISU senior soccer player Cyerra (pronounced SEE-air-uh) Hibbert used FlightPath six days after she suffered a concussion during a game. The app requires athletes to catch a hummingbird as it flutters around a 3D screen, and it can collect a million data points within two minutes. Hibbert likes the objective evaluation.

"Because as athletes, we're always eager to be on the field or play the game and to have that mindset to be better and get back on your feet as quickly as you can. I think this app will allow you to really settle and to really take your time with your symptoms." (:16)

FlightPath will be tested for two years before it could be submitted for FDA approval.