



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDICAL EXPERTS TO ADDRESS YOUTH SPORTS CONCUSSIONS

July 27, 2010 - The fall sports season begins next month and the proper medical management of sports concussions can't be understated. The proper identification and management of sports concussions is crucial when trying to prevent the very serious and potentially catastrophic Second Impact Syndrome, a dangerous condition that can occur if an athlete returns to sports before full recovery.

The Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey is one of the driving educational forces for sports concussion management in New Jersey. Robert Cantu, MD, a preeminent sports concussion researcher and expert, who has served as a consultant to many scholastic and professional athletes on the return to collision sports after a head injury, will discuss his research on concussions as part of a roundtable discussion on the topic. In addition to Dr. Cantu, the ATSNJ has assembled a group of nationally and regionally known medical experts in concussion management to address sports-related concussions — from the initial identification of a concussion to return-to-play guidelines.

Reporters are invited to attend the roundtable discussion and ask questions to the panel of experts.

WHEN: Monday, August 2 at 11:30 AM

**WHERE: Wyndham Princeton Forrestal Village and Conference Center
900 Scudders Mill Rd., Plainsboro, NJ**

PARTICIPANTS: Robert Cantu, MD
Medical Director, National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research, Chapel Hill, NC and Co-Director of the Neurological Sports Injury Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA

Robb S. Rehberg, PhD, ATC, CSCS, NREMT
Coordinator, Clinical Education, William Paterson University
Past President and Governmental Relations Coordinator, ATSNJ

Rob Franks, DO
Director, Concussion Program
Assistant Director, Sports Medicine
Cooper University Hospital, Camden NJ

Margot Putukian, MD
Director, Athletic Medicine Services
Team Physician, Princeton University

Complete list of speakers is available at atsnj.org/concussion.

Every year, thousands of student athletes sustain concussions that may cause permanent brain damage. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention an estimated 1.6 to 3.8 million sports and recreation related concussions occur in the United States each year. Concussions occur even if an athlete doesn't lose consciousness and in fact, is the most common type of brain injury sustained in sports.

ABOUT THE ATHLETIC TRAINERS' SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

ATSNJ, Inc. consists of Licensed Athletic Trainers, physicians and other allied health care professionals whose goal is to promote quality healthcare for athletes in any setting. For more information, visit the ATSNJ online at atsnj.org.

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