

<http://www.KSCBNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=3579>

Kansas High Schools Get Serious About Concussions

More than a dozen high schools in northeastern Kansas are testing how the brains of their student-athletes work normally in case any of them suffer concussions.

De Soto High School athletic trainer Steve Hawkins says the high schools are relying on something called ImPACT, which stands for Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing. A handful of Kansas high schools used the test last year, but most are adding it this fall.

The test can be taken at the beginning of the season and measures such things as the athletes' memories.

If an athlete suffers a suspected concussion, the test can be retaken, and the post-injury results can be compared to the pre-injury results.

The program already is used by the NFL, NHL, Major League Baseball, NBA teams and universities across the country.

Copyright Associated Press