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Football and concussions: Define the risks first

Munro Cullum, PhD
KevinMD

Awareness about concussions has never been greater among high school athletes and coaches, thanks to the spotlight shone on some former NFL players who've experienced problems later in life. But a downside to this heightened awareness is the fear it has sown among parents that their children who play sports like football, soccer, or hockey may end up the same way. As a parent, I understand that fear. My son played soccer throughout high school and college and sustained several concussions. While I was obviously concerned at the time, he recovered quickly after each with proper rest, and, as with most people, shows no lingering effects.

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Vapers Accuse Officials of Overreach as Investigation into Deadly Lung Illness Lags

Anna Maria Barry-Jester and Jenny Gold | *KHN*

As federal and state health officials struggle to identify what exactly is causing the deadly outbreak, vaping advocates are stepping into the void and crafting an alternative narrative that is being echoed broadly in online communities. The people getting sick, according to their version of events, all vaped THC - the psychoactive ingredient in cannabis - using products bought on an illicit black market. They also contend federal officials have seized on the crisis to crack down on a nicotine vaping culture they don't appreciate or understand, a culture proponents insist has helped them and millions of others quit smoking. As of Oct. 1, the federal **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** had identified more than 1,000 cases of vaping-related lung illness in 48 states. Eighteen people have died, including two in California. Of the 578 patients who have reported using specific products, most said they had vaped THC, but a significant portion - 17% - said they had used only nicotine.



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Florida's Health Care System Could Lose Nearly Half of Its Nurses

In 2018, 45% of all nurses who became licensed in Florida graduated from career schools, according to data provided by the **Florida Center for Nursing**. Yet most of these schools are being shut down by the **Florida Board of Nursing** due to a controversial law that brought owners of small nursing schools together for a forum on Saturday, September 28, 2019, with Florida Representatives **Nicholas Duran** (DEM District 112) and **Ana Maria Rodriguez** (REP District 105), who both sit on the health care committees that consider laws involving nursing practice in Florida.

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