When Science Meets Sport: Helmets, Head Injury & Public Policy

Stephen Olvey, M.D.
University of Miami

12:00 p.m., Friday, September 25, 2015
CRB 620
A light lunch will be provided; space is limited

Football is an essential part of the American social fabric. With the help of television, many will arrange their schedules around games, debate player behavior, and, to watch games, will make excuses to avoid work, domestic duties, and keeping promises. Recently, a dark cloud has cast a pall on this national obsession. It is now known that playing football from childhood can be hazardous to your health. Current research has stained America’s favorite pastime – at least for those who follow the research. Strikingly, recent discoveries have yet to elicit significant public concern, perhaps because culture, business and academic tradition are so entwined with the sport. How can we encourage children to engage in a sport we know can have adverse life-long health effects?

Dr. Olvey is an Associate Professor of Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. He is the retired Director of the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit at Jackson Memorial Hospital, a member of the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment’s Medical Advisory Panel and a Founding Fellow of the Federation Internationale de l’Automobile’s Institute for Motorsports Safety and Sustainability. He contributes to the bioethics consulting service for UM and Jackson hospitals.

Dialogues in Research Ethics is a series of monthly conferences. For more information, phone UM Ethics Programs at 305-243-5723 or E-mail ethics@miami.edu.