

Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE)

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Why in News?

Football Player, Shane Tuma who killed four people in New York claimed he was suffering from chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

- **Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE)** - It is a **progressive brain disorder** caused by repeated head injuries or concussions.

Concussions cause the brain to move rapidly within the skull, potentially stretching and damaging brain cells.

- The term "CTE" stands for:
 - **Chronic** - Long-lasting and ongoing.
 - **Traumatic** - Linked to injury to trauma.
 - **Encephalopathy** - A disease of the brain.
- **Symptoms** - Early symptoms like Depression, aggression, mood swings, and personality changes.
- As the disease progresses, people may experience confusion, memory loss, and difficulty with planning or decision-making.
- In advanced cases, movement problems can also develop.
- **Common Occurrence** - CTE has been most commonly observed in athletes involved in sports such as football, boxing, and hockey, as well as military veterans exposed to blast injuries.
- Victims of domestic violence or others with a history of frequent head injuries.
- **Diagnosis** - The disease can only be definitively diagnosed after death, during autopsy.
- **Treatment** - Currently **no treatment** or cure for CTE.

Quick Facts

- **Comotio Celebri** - Hippocrates described commotio celebri, 'commotion of the brain' as a vigorous shake or blow to the head that caused temporary loss of speech, hearing, and sight.
- **Punch Drunk Syndrome** - Martland coined the term "Punch drunk" to describe this disease that afflicted pugilists.
- First identified in 1920's among boxers. It most often affects fighters of the who are usually poor boxers and who take considerable head punishment, seeking only to land a knockout blow.

References

1. [Mint | Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy \(CTE\)](#)
2. [Indian Express| All about CTE](#)
3. [Medicover Hospital | What is CTE](#)



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