

# Researchers: Former NHL player Jeff Parker had brain disease

4 May 2018

---

Researchers say former NHL player Jeff Parker suffered from a brain disease that has been linked with repeated head injuries in athletes.

The diagnosis comes from Boston University's CTE Center. Parker is at least the seventh pro hockey player diagnosed with the [disease, chronic traumatic encephalopathy](#), which led to a \$1 billion settlement between the NFL and former players.

Parker died of other causes at age 53 last September. The CTE center's director, Dr. Ann McKee, says Parker suffered from an advanced stage of the disease. His symptoms included memory loss and impulsivity.

Parker played five seasons at Buffalo and Hartford until a head [injury](#) ended his career in 1991. He starred at Mariner High School in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, and at Michigan State.

Parker was a plaintiff in a federal lawsuit pending in Minnesota against the NHL, which disputes whether hockey injuries can cause CTE.

© 2018 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

APA citation: Researchers: Former NHL player Jeff Parker had brain disease (2018, May 4) retrieved 31 August 2022 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-05-nhl-player-jeff-parker-brain.html>

*This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.*