

World Anti-Doping Code and aviation medical certification

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Introduction

◆ Air sports competitors are subject to both aviation medical rules and the new World Anti-Doping Program.

◆ Each air sport, e.g. soaring, airplane aerobatics, paragliding, etc., is governed by individual International Federation, who all are under umbrella of FAI (Fédération Aéronautique Internationale), which has a medical commission, **FAI-CIMP**.

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What is WADA?

- ◆ The World Anti-Doping Agency's \$21M budget is funded by governments (Japan \$1.5M, US \$0.8M, etc.) and Olympic Movement.
- ◆ Copenhagen Declaration on anti-doping 2003 has been signed by 105 governments in time for the Athens Games. UNESCO convention is in preparation, targeting the Turin Winter Games.
- ◆ Only sports that adopt WADA's World Anti-Doping Code can be included in the Olympic Games.

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How are the athlete pilots affected?

- ◆ FAI-CIMP accepted the Code in 2003, followed by FAI General Assembly.
- ◆ Whether or not a competition pilot needs an airman medical certificate (National or JAA), the pilot is subjected to the doping control by the Code.
- ◆ By the Code, an athlete pilot can be selected for out-of-competition doping control (often urine) at any time, anywhere!

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WADA Prohibited Substances List

◆ The list contains stimulants, narcotics, cannabinoids, anabolic agents, peptide hormones (incl. EPO), beta-2 agonists, anti-estrogenic agents, masking agents, glucocorticosteroids, blood doping, sample manipulation, and gene doping.

◆ FAI specifically allows **supplemental oxygen**, but prohibits alcohol and beta-blockers for in-competition use.

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Issues-1

Prohibited List

◆ The Prohibited List is independent of aviation medical requirements. For example, most diuretics are considered as masking agents, which hinder urinal substance detection.

◆ Therapeutic Use Exemption is not valid if the sample urine contains a diuretic in association with sub-threshold levels of a Prohibited Substance.

◆ **Before subscription, make sure if the pilot is an athlete.**

◆ THG is now recognized.

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Issues-2

Therapeutic Use Exemption

- ◆ To allow medical treatment, TUE process is instituted in the WADA Code.
- ◆ Use of inhaled beta-2 agonists or non-systemic corticosteroids has an abbreviated TUE process.
- ◆ Use of other medicine on the list needs TUE application to a TUE Committee.
- ◆ Inappropriate support by some national control agency is reported.

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Issues-3

Who is in control?

◆ WADA, national anti-doping authority, international federation, and event organizer are all empowered, by the Code, to conduct control tests.

◆ Some of European countries have anti-doping regulations, and thus budget. In other areas, who is actually in charge of each test is not always clear.

◆ Who is paying? For example, Japanese government does not expend test fee.

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Conclusion

To comply with WADA Code and avoid losing a fit flyer in an air sport competition, Aviation Medical Examiners should;

- ✓ **Ask if an applicant plays in a competition.**
- ✓ **Monitor activities of each national anti-doping authority and air sport federation.**

➤ www.wada-ama.org

➤ www.fai.org/medical/