Abstracts

Joint Conference of BASEM and BASES

001 TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENT AND GOLF: IMPACT ON PARTICIPATION AND PERFORMANCE
J. Arbuthnot, M. McNicholas, H. Dashti, G. Stables

There is little information that the orthopaedic surgeon can provide for patients concerned about the effect of a total hip arthroplasty (THA) operation on their ability to continue playing golf and at what level they can hope to play.

We present the results of a study into the effect of THA for osteoarthritis on the golfing habits and performance of 750 patients. We sent 750 patient questionnaires, which enquired about their participation in golf before and after the operation. We received 698 replies, 66 of which were from golfers.

Harris hip scores are prospectively acquired before surgery and at regular intervals afterwards for all patients undergoing hip arthroplasty at our centre. Comparisons of hip scores for golfers were significantly higher than for non-golfers at all intervals.

There was no statistically significant difference in the number of games played, maximum shot distance, shot accuracy, handicap, or ability to walk around the course after the operation.

We conclude that THA does not have a detrimental effect on golf participation or performance.

002 A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY OF THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF SPORT, EXERCISE, AND LEISURE RELATED INJURIES IN 1143 CHILDREN UNDER 17 PRESENTING TO AN EMERGENCY MEDICINE DEPARTMENT OVER A SIX MONTH PERIOD
K.P. O’Rourke1, S. Mun2, M. Browne3, J. Sheehan3, S. Cusack3, M. Molloy1, J. Arbuthnot1, M. McNicholas1, G. Stables1, 1Department of Rheumatology, Cork University Hospital, Cork Ireland, 2Department of Paediatrics, Cork University Hospital; 3Department of Accident and Emergency, Cork University Hospital; 4Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College Cork, Cork

Aims: In Ireland, the demographics of sport related injury (SRI) in children has not adequately been described, as indicated by the paucity of publications in the medical literature, and the purpose of this study was to provide up-to-date data to correct this deficiency.

Methods: Data were collected on all children under 17 years of age with a SRI, presenting to the emergency medicine department of a major teaching hospital, over a six month period. The data, which included sport, age, sex, cause, type, site, time of injury, and management, were entered into a database.

Results: We analysed 23,000 records, and identified 1143 SRIs over a six month period, from 53 different sports. Our results indicate many statistical differences, some of which were previously unreported, including a high proportion of humerus (p = 0.03) and back (p = 0.01) SRIs in girls, a higher proportion of falls in girls (p = 0.0001) and inter-individual collisions in boys (p = 0.0001), low usage of protective gear (6% of SRIs), infrequent advice on RICE/general injury (25% of SRIs) and injury preventive measures (<1% of SRIs), decreased analgesia prescription in children under age 5, and rarity of topical analgesic prescription (<1% of analgesics prescribed).

Conclusions: The data provided may raise awareness of the different aspects of SRIs affecting children and may be important in formulating injury prevention strategies.

003 A THREE MONTH HOME EXERCISE PROGRAMME IMPROVES PAIN AND FUNCTION IN A MILITARY POPULATION WITH RECALCITRANT ANTERIOR KNEE PAIN

Aim: To establish the effectiveness of a three month home exercise programme in the treatment of recalcitrant anterior knee pain (AKP) in a military population.

Method: Patients presenting to the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre (DMRC) between November 2001 and November 2002 with a diagnosis of AKP were allocated to a one week inpatient education and rehabilitation course. They were assessed for levels of pain intensity and effect using a visual analogue scale score, self reported disability using a Chesarworth questionnaire, and function with a figure of 8 test. They were prescribed a progressive exercise regimen including eccentric loading, postural stability, and flexibility exercises, as well as cardiovascular fitness. They were reviewed after three months and the assessments were repeated.

Results: A total of 41 patients (41 men, seven women) were recruited with a mean (SD) age of 29.9 (7.0) years and a duration of symptoms of 5.3 (3.4) years. Bilateral symptoms were present in 38% of the patients. There was a significant improvement in all outcomes (table).

Conclusion: In service personnel with recalcitrant AKP, a three month home exercise programme results in a significant improvement in pain, self reported disability, and function.


004 CONCUSSION IN SPORT: ARE RECOMMENDATIONS BEING FOLLOWED?
H.C. Hart, W.A. Wallace, J.A. White, F.M. Caffey. Queen’s Medical Centre, Nottingham NG7 2UH, UK

Aim: To determine if current concussion recommendations1 for pitch side assistance and return to play practices are being followed.

Method: A retrospective postal questionnaire of persons who had presented as a sports casualty at accident and emergency, with signs and symptoms of concussion and/or a head, neck, chest, or thigh injury had a response rate of 58% (n = 104/186).

Results: All respondents received a poor standard of pitch side first aid. Among the 26 concussed respondents, 11 were aware of guidelines used for safe return to play. However, seven admitted to evading injury detection, and 12 to ignoring guidelines or advice when returning to play, only seven did so in a stepwise fashion, which was significantly less than respondents without concussion injury (n = 63) (p<0.005). No concussed respondents had neurocognitive assessments.

Conclusion: In keeping with the finding of other studies,2 pitch side first aid needs to be improved to an acceptable standard. Objective

Abstract 3 Changes in tested parameters (paired t test)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paired differences</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>95% CI</th>
<th>t Statistic</th>
<th>p Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pain intensity (n = 47)</td>
<td>−8.1042</td>
<td>−9.919 to −6.286</td>
<td>−2.682</td>
<td>0.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain effect (n = 47)</td>
<td>−12.2083</td>
<td>−15.802 to −8.614</td>
<td>−2.682</td>
<td>0.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesarworth questionnaire (n = 48)</td>
<td>1.79</td>
<td>1.19 to 2.39</td>
<td>2.006</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure of 8 (seconds) (n = 42)</td>
<td>−0.39 to −3.61</td>
<td>2.506</td>
<td>0.016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abstract 6 Effects of exercise on heart index, apoptotic ratio, and Bax and Bcl-2 gene expression

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Heart index (%)</th>
<th>Apoptotic ratio (%)</th>
<th>Bax gene</th>
<th>Bcl-2 gene</th>
<th>Bax/Bcl-2 ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.27 (0.01)</td>
<td>0.76 (0.56)</td>
<td>0.22 (0.070)</td>
<td>0.21 (0.094)</td>
<td>1.239 (0.621)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.32 (0.01)</td>
<td>2.30 (1.552)</td>
<td>0.24 (0.076)</td>
<td>0.19 (0.732)</td>
<td>1.414 (0.615)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.30 (0.02)</td>
<td>7.21 (2.776)</td>
<td>0.29 (0.037)</td>
<td>0.17 (0.106)</td>
<td>2.317 (1.844)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are mean (SD).

was significantly different in the HT group from the C (p<0.05) and MT (p<0.05) group (table). Endurance training induced myocardiac hypertrophy and cardiomyocyte apoptosis at the same time. High-val-
taining training had more effects on cardiomyocyte apoptosis. The inter-
action of the Bax and Bcl-2 genes played a major role in regulating
exercise induced cardiomyocyte apoptosis.

Note: This work was funded by State General Administration of
Sports of P.R.China and carried out in the National Research Institute
of Sports Science of P.R. China, Beijing.

method for measuring thymocyte apoptosis by propidium iodide stain-

2. Yuan J, Chang Y. The observation on live cardiomyocyte apoptosis
in athletic heart remodelling process. Chinese Journal of Sports

3. Olthof ZN, Milliman CL, Korsmeyer SJ. Bcl-2 heterodimerizes in
vivo with a conserved homolog, Bax, that accelerates programmed cell

006 CARBOHYDRATE/ELECTROLYTE REPLACEMENT IN SOCCER PLAYERS

S.M. Ostojic, V. Jorga, Sports Medicine Department, Institute for Medical Hygiene, Pasteurova 2, Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Belgrade 11000, Serbia

The aim of this study was to examine the effects of a carbohydrate/electrolyte drink on specific soccer tests and performance. Twenty professional male soccer players volunteered to partici-
pare. They were allocated to one of two trials in which either carbohydrate/electrolyte solution or placebo was ingested during a 90 minute soccer match. The trials were matched for subjects’ age, weight, height, maximal oxygen uptake, and playing positions. Immediately after the match, players completed six soccer specific skill tests. Subjects in the carbohydrate/electrolyte trial finished the specific dribble test faster than those in the placebo trial [12.1 (0.8) vs 13.2 (0.7) seconds; p<0.05]. Ratings of the precision test were
higher in the carbohydrate/electrolyte trial than the placebo trial [16.8 (4.7) vs 15.0 (4.1); p<0.05], and the 20 m shuttle run test times were higher in the carbohydrate/electrolyte trial (721.8 (63.2) vs 654.2 (45.5) seconds; p<0.05), but there were no differences in coordination test, balance test, and power test results between trials. The main finding of this study indicates that supplementation with a carbohydrate/electrolyte solution improved soccer specific skill tests. Subjects in the carbohydrate/electrolyte trial showed significant improve-
ment, from 31.30 (5.48)% to 28.44 (6.43)% (p = 0.011), but no significant changes in fat free mass were observed in the placebo group. Percentage body fat was significantly decreased in the place-
bo group, from 28.44 (6.43)% to 25.93 (7.43)% (p = 0.012), but no significant differences in fat free mass were observed in the placebo group. Percentage body fat was significantly decreased in the treat-
ment group and placebo group, from 31.30 (5.48)% to 28.44 (6.43)% (p = 0.01) and from 22.83 (2.43)% to 21.33 (2.35)% (p = 0.001) respectively. The 1RM test showed a significant increase from 73.71 (16.63) to 78.71 (17.0) kg (p = 0.006) in the treatment group and from 77.29 (8.9) to 79.43 (8.8) kg (p = 0.011) in the placebo group. The increase in strength in the treatment group was larger than in the placebo
group (6.78% and 2.77% respectively). The mean frequency of the exercise was increased by 10% RM/week. Body composi-
tion, arm circumference, one repetition maximum (1 RM), and surface electromyography (sEMG) activity were measured and recorded one day before and after the five weeks of supplementation and intervention. The lean body mass of the treatment group showed a significant incre-
ment, from 52.26 (7.18) kg to 54.39 (7.43) kg (p = 0.012), but no significant changes in fat free mass were observed in the placebo group. Percentage body fat was significantly decreased in the treatment and placebo group, from 31.30 (5.48)% to 28.44 (6.43)% (p = 0.01) and from 22.83 (2.43)% to 21.33 (2.35)% (p = 0.001) respectively. The 1RM test showed a significant increase from 73.71 (16.63) to 78.71 (17.0) kg (p = 0.006) in the treatment group and from 77.29 (8.9) to 79.43 (8.8) kg (p = 0.011) in the placebo group. The increase in strength in the treatment group was larger than in the placebo group (6.78% and 2.77% respectively). The mean frequency of sEMG on the biceps in the treatment and placebo groups
decreased significantly, from 121.77 (40.0) to 90.47 (64.6) µV (p = 0.012) and from 127.95 (30.9) to 98.88 (50.1) µV (p = 0.036) respectively. The treatment produced 2.92% greater reduction in elec-
trical activity of the muscle measured at the end of the experiment
compared with placebo. The mean arm circumference of the treatment group increased significantly by 1.8 cm after the supplementation, from 30.87 (1.88) to 32.67 (1.96) cm (p = 0.011), but there was no significant increase in the placebo group. The results suggest that water soluble extract of Eurycoma longifolia Jack increased fat free
mass, reduced body fat, and increased muscle strength and size, and
DO CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 11 AND 14 IN PRIVATE EDUCATION DO MORE EXERCISE THAN THOSE IN STATE EDUCATION?

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Aims: To discover whether children in private education do more exercise than those in state education during the pubertal growth spurt and to offer some explanation for this.

Methods: A total of 299 pupils aged 11–14 years from five schools took part. Hours of exercise taken by pupils (a) in school PE lessons, (b) in organised school activities, and (c) outside school were recorded in a questionnaire. Pupils were asked if their parents exercised and asked to offer reasons why they didn’t do as much exercise as they intended. Lastly, lists of sporting facilities available at schools were obtained.

Results: The mean (SD) of total exercise taken by state school and private school pupils was 4.29 (4.39) hours and 5.39 (3.86) hours respectively. Using an independent t test at the 95% significance level, t = -2.28103 and p = 0.02325.

Conclusion: The results suggest that pupils attending private schools do significantly more exercise than those attending state schools. If these results have national significance, state school pupils will accumulate less bone density and will consequently be at greater risk of suffering from osteoporosis later in their lives.


EFFECT OF FOUR WEEKS OF REHABILITATION FOR CHRONIC ANKLE INSTABILITY ON POSTURAL CONTROL AND SELF REPORTED DISABILITY

J. Hertel, S.A. Hale, L.C. Olmsted. Department of Kinesiology, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA

Our aim was to investigate the effects of a four week rehabilitation programme on postural control and self reported disability in young adults who suffered from chronic ankle instability (CAI). Twelve individuals with unilateral CAI and 17 with no history of sprain to involved limbs after rehabilitation. Subjective self reports appear to be more sensitive than postural control measures in detecting functional deficits associated with CAI.


Abstract 11 Subject characteristics and concentrations of male sex hormones and CRP reactive protein at time of testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group ID</th>
<th>AAS Using-on (n=8)</th>
<th>AAS Using-off (n=7)</th>
<th>Bodybuilder controls (n=9)</th>
<th>Sedentary controls (n=9)</th>
<th>Normal range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SU</td>
<td>SA</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of AAS use (years)</td>
<td>19 (2.3)</td>
<td>20 (2.5)</td>
<td>28.3 (2.0)</td>
<td>27.1 (2.9)</td>
<td>14.3 (3.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body mass index (kg/m²)</td>
<td>34.4 (2.7)**</td>
<td>34.7 (3.7)**</td>
<td>19.6 (4.9)</td>
<td>16.3 (5.7)</td>
<td>14.3 (3.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testosterone (nmol/l)</td>
<td>57.4 (21)*</td>
<td>19.6 (4.9)</td>
<td>23.7 (8.9)</td>
<td>26 (15.2)</td>
<td>15–100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHBG (mmol/l)</td>
<td>4.3 (1.4)</td>
<td>12.5 (7.5)</td>
<td>3.6 (1.4)</td>
<td>1.3 (0.7)</td>
<td>0.9 (0.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRP (mg/l)</td>
<td>3.6 (1.4)</td>
<td>1.3 (0.7)</td>
<td>0.9 (0.5)</td>
<td>1.2 (0.9)</td>
<td>&lt;6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are mean (SD). *p<0.05, **p<0.01 compared with controls.
†Significantly lower than BC and SC but not SU.
N/A Not applicable; AAS, anabolic androgenic steroid; SHBG, sex hormone binding globulin; CRP, C reactive protein.
Elevated Levels of C Reactive Protein in the Lack of Impairment of Thyroidal Function After Long Term Illicit Use of Anabolic Androgenic Steroids

F.M. Grace, B. Davies. Centre for Ergogenic Drug Research, Department of Health and Exercise Science, University of Glamorgan, Wales, UK

**Aim:** To investigate the effects of anabolic androgenic steroid (AAS) use on a biochemical marker for inflammatory disease, C reactive protein.

**Method:** After ethical approval from the local health authority, AAS using participants were recruited to the study. Subjects were divided into four distinct groups: AAS users (n = 7) who were still using at the time of testing (A); AAS users (n = 8) who had been abstinent for more than three months (mean (SD) 20 (2.5)); bodybuilding controls (n = 8) who did not use any pharmaceutical ergogenic aids (C); sedentary male controls (n = 10) (D).

Venous blood was sampled for testosterone, sex hormone binding globulin, and C reactive protein using standardised procedures and appropriate techniques.

**Results:** Significant differences in male sex hormones (table) provided indirect confirmation of AAS use. Results also indicated significantly higher (p<0.05) C reactive protein levels in the AAS using group than the bodybuilding and sedentary controls.

**Conclusion:** C reactive protein, a marker of systemic inflammation, appears to be elevated through the illicit use of AAS.

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Effectiveness of a Multidisciplinary Cardiac Rehabilitation Programme on the Psychological Wellbeing of Myocardial Infarction Survivors

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It is well documented that myocardial infarction (MI) survivors commonly suffer psychological disturbances, such as anxiety and depression, the consequences of which for some patients are transient but for others are persistent and disabling. The National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease (Department of Health, 2000) highlights the need to address the psychological needs of cardiac patients. Therefore the aim of this study was to examine the short- and long-term effectiveness of a multidisciplinary cardiac rehabilitation programme on anxiety and depression levels in MI survivors. After their MI, patients were invited to attend a six-week cardiac rehabilitation programme, which included twice-weekly exercise sessions each (one hour duration) and educational discussions covering topics such as cardiac health and medications, lifestyle, nutrition, stress management, and relaxation. Thirty three patients (29 male, four female; mean age 60.3 (7.8) years) volunteered to participate in the study. They completed the hospital anxiety and depression scale (HADS) at the start of the cardiac rehabilitation programme, at the end of the programme (short term effectiveness), and six months after the programme (long term effectiveness). It was found that 15% and 18% of patients exhibited substantial anxiety and depression respectively (HADS score greater than 11; table). Short term anxiety scores had decreased after the programme, but long term (six months after the programme) they had increased. Repeated measures analysis of variance revealed no significant differences in the anxiety scores over the short term and long term periods (p>0.05). Depression scores showed similar, but significant (p<0.05), trends with a short term reduction immediately after the programme and an increase at six months. To conclude, as the six month scores for both anxiety and depression increased, the study shows the need for long term monitoring of psychological wellbeing in cardiac patients beyond six months.

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### Abstract 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AAS Using-on (n=8)</th>
<th>AAS Using-off (n=7)</th>
<th>Bodybuilder controls (n=8)</th>
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<th>Normal range</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>SC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of AAS use (years)</td>
<td>19 (2.3)</td>
<td>20 (2.1)</td>
<td>16.3 (5.7)</td>
<td>14.3 (3.6)</td>
<td>8-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body mass index (kg/m²)</td>
<td>34.4 (2.7)**</td>
<td>34.7 (3.7)**</td>
<td>28.3 (2.0)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Testosterone (nmol/l)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHBG (nmol/l)</td>
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<td>12.5 (7.5)*</td>
<td>23.7 (8.9)</td>
<td>26 (15.2)</td>
<td>15-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSH (mU/l)</td>
<td>2.1 (0.8)</td>
<td>3.4 (1.0)</td>
<td>23.3 (12)</td>
<td>3.7 (11)</td>
<td>0.35-5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T₄ (nmol/l)</td>
<td>83 (14)</td>
<td>76 (19)</td>
<td>74 (17)</td>
<td>88 (20)</td>
<td>55-144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are mean (SD).

*Significantly lower (p<0.05) than BC and SC but not SU.
†Significantly lower (p<0.05) than AAS Using-on and AAS Using-off.

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### Abstract 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
<th>Six months after</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>4.36 (3.31)</td>
<td>3.73 (3.32)</td>
<td>4.09 (2.84)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>4.18 (2.84)</td>
<td>2.00 (1.89)*</td>
<td>2.33 (2.91)*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are mean (SD).

*Significant difference from baseline (pre-programme) figures.

014 IMMUNE FUNCTION IN RELATION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
A.D. Flouris, J. Aird, G. Inglis, P. Klenrou. Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, Brock University, St Catharines, Ontario (L2S3A1), Canada

The purpose of this study was to determine the effects of salivary cortisol (sCz) on salivary immunoglobulin A (sIgA) and frequency of upper tract respiratory infections in relation to psychological stress. Fifty (50) university students (27 men, 23 women) who had not received a flu vaccination for the past 12 months volunteered. They were assessed for sIgA, sIgA/albumin ratio, and sCz. Each subject completed the aerobic center longitudinal study physical activity questionnaire for estimation of weekly energy expenditure, and an 11 week health and sickness log for daily recording of symptoms of sickness. Measurements were performed in September (T1), a relatively low stress period, and November (T2), two weeks before the term final examinations. Analysis of variance indicated no significant (p>0.05) differences between T1 and T2 in sIgA concentration (210.36 (155.91) v 220.93 (157.39)), sIgA/Albumin ratio (2.84 (0.72) v 2.84 (0.79)), and sCz (6.6 (3.56) v 6.84 (4.18)). sIgA and sCz were not related to weekly energy expenditure (p>0.05). Students were below “optimal” levels for recommended physical activity levels. At both T1 and T2, sIgA concentration was significantly lower (p<0.05) and sCz concentration was higher (p<0.05) than previously reported, indicating that subjects were overly stressed since the beginning of the year, which possibly resulted in immunosuppression.

015 ELITE PERFORMANCE IN RELATION TO SPECIFIC CORTICAL STIMULI ACROSS DIVERSE SPORTING DISCIPLINES
A.D. Flouris1*, G.S. Metsois. 1Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, Brock University, St Catharines, Ontario (L2S3A1), Canada; 2School of Sports, Performing Arts and Leisure, University of Wolverhampton, Walsall WS13BD, UK

Recent scientific findings suggest that listening to the first movement of Mozart’s Sonata for Two Pianos (K 448) causes significant improvements in spatial-temporal reasoning. This study investigated the effect of this precise neural stimulus on specific performance indices of elite athletes. A repeated measures, randomised block design required 26 elite male soccer players (12–16 years of age) and 24 elite male cricketers (14–17 years) to perform both spatial-temporal organisation speed and skill drills. Each drill was performed twice on two separate days, which included a 10 minute relaxation period before testing. Mozart’s sonata was randomly implemented on headphones during one of the two sessions. During the remaining sessions, subjects were exposed to a silent recording. Analysis of variance indicated that performance in the skill test was significantly enhanced in both soccer (p<0.001) (stimuli = 41.76 (17.15); non-stimuli = 33.38 (15.07)) and cricket (p<0.05) (stimuli = 10.10 (2.54); non-stimuli = 9.07 (2.54)) after the music stimulus session. Conversely, the stimuli produced no significant (p>0.05) enhancement in speed for either soccer (stimuli = 4.90 (0.48); non-stimuli = 5.01 (0.24)) or cricket (stimuli = 5.77 (0.46); non-stimuli = 6.02 (0.58)). The results suggest that spatial-temporal stimuli can significantly enhance skill performance in soccer and cricket. Further research is required to evaluate the “Mozart effect” across other sport disciplines.

016 RISK FACTOR PROFILES OF CORONARY HEART DISEASE IN PERI-ADOLESCENT YOUTH IN CANADA AND GREECE
A.D. Flouris1, C. Bouziotas, B.E. Faught, T. Koutedakis, S. Dobbin1. 1Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, Brock University, St Catharines, Ontario, Canada; 2School of Health Sciences, University of Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton, UK; 3Department of Physical Education and Sports, University of Thessaly, Trikala, Greece

This study assessed the coronary heart disease risk factor profile of 12 year old children living in Canada and Greece. A sample of 396 youths (98 boys and 199 girls from each country) were evaluated for percentage body fat (%BF), blood pressure (BP), total cholesterol (TC), maximum oxygen uptake (VO2MAX), and participation in physical activity (PPA). In Canadian and Greek boys, there were noticeable differences between the reported prevalence for clinical obesity (>30%BF; 0.23 (0.09) v 0.28 (0.09)), high TC levels (>4.0 mmol/l; 0.39 (0.09) v 0.44 (0.1)), high systolic blood pressure (BP) (>140 mmHg; 0.18 (0.1) v 0.22 (0.1)), and low VO2MAX (<35 ml/kg/min; 0.28 (0.08) v 0.30 (0.09)). In Greek girls, %BF (9.08 (1.09) v 9.11 (1.07)), and low VO2MAX (<35 ml/kg/min; 0.28 (0.08) v 0.30 (0.09)) were also significantly higher (p<0.05). Analysis of variance detected significantly higher values for diastolic and mean arterial BP, TC, and lower VO2MAX in Greek boys (p<0.05). Furthermore, significantly higher values for body mass index, diastolic and mean arterial BP, %BF, and TC as well as lower VO2MAX and PPA were found for Greek girls (p<0.05). In assessing common risk factor trends, stepwise regression analyses showed VO2MAX and PPA predicting clinical obesity and low VO2MAX levels respectively in both countries. Finally, TC was predicted by VO2MAX and %BF in boys and girls, respectively.

017 IMPACT OF COLLAGEN FRAGMENTS ON THE TYPE II COLLAGEN BIOSYNTHESIS OF CHONDROCYTES
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Aim: The integrity of articular cartilage is dependent on the maintenance of the extracellular matrix (ECM), which is controlled by chondrocytes. In the regulation of ECM biosynthesis, a variety of substances have been found to influence chondrocyte metabolism. The effect of degraded collagen on the formation of type II collagen by mature bovine chondrocytes was investigated in a cell culture model.

Methods: The culture medium was supplemented with collagen hydrolysate, and biosynthesis of type II collagen by chondrocytes was compared with control cells treated with native type I and type II collagen and a collagen-free protein hydrolysate. The quantification of type II collagen by ELSIA was confirmed by immunocytochemical detection and by the incorporation of [14C]proline into the ECM. Chondrocytes in the control group were maintained in the basal medium for 11 days.

Results: The presence of extracellular collagen hydrolysate led to a dose dependent increase in type II collagen secretion. Native collagen as well as a collagen-free protein hydrolysate failed to stimulate the production of type II.

Conclusion: These results clearly indicate a stimulatory effect of degraded collagen on the type II collagen biosynthesis of chondrocytes and suggest a possible feedback mechanism for the regulation of collagen turnover in cartilage tissue.


018 IS DURATION OF LOW BACK PAIN ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED SCINTIGRAPHIC UPTAKE IN THOSE INVESTIGATED FOR SPONDYLITIS?
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Spondylolysis may result from repeated stress of sporting activity on the posterior element of the lumbar spine. The condition may be suspected in a patient with extension related low back pain. Initial investigation by single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) reveals bone responding to stress with increased bone metabolism. This study compares characteristics of patients with positive and negative SPECT results.

Patients having had SPECT scans at QMC, Nottingham between 1995 and 2001 were studied (n = 379; 193 male, 186 female): 201 patients had negative and 178 had positive SPECT results.

SPECT positivity was associated with a period of shorter than 12 months of pain before the SPECT scan (χ2; p = 0.0036). Sporting involvement (χ2; p = <0.0001) and being male (χ2; p = <0.0001; adjusted odds ratio (OR); total cholesterol (2.24 (95% confidence interval 2.20 to 5.28)) were also independently associated with positivity.

Investigating by SPECT within a time frame of 12 months from pain onset is more likely to yield positive results. The explanation may be that increased bone metabolism tends to normalise after such periods, or that pain persisting for longer than one year is less likely to be due to spondylolysis.
**019 EFFECT OF SOFT TISSUE THERAPY ON HIP JOINT RANGE OF MOTION, SYMPTOMS, AND EGGBEATER KICK PERFORMANCE IN WATER POLO PLAYERS**

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The purpose of this study was to examine whether a specific course of soft tissue intervention would have an effect on hip joint range of movement, symptoms, and eggbeater kick performance in water polo players. Sixteen elite male water polo players aged 16–19 years participated in the randomised crossover study. The ranges of hip joint passive and active internal and external rotation, and active abduction were measured. A questionnaire including visual analogue scales was used to determine current symptoms. In water, performance tests consisted of a maximal jump height test and an eggbeater endurance to fatigue test. The intervention consisted of eight 45 minute sessions of soft tissue therapy over a period of four weeks. The results show a significant difference between the control and experimental groups in passive internal and external rotation and total passive range of movement (p = 0.05). A trend towards greater increases in active range of rotation in the experimental group was noted, but this was not significant because of the increased range also occurring in the control group. The intervention had no effect on the abduction range of movement. There was a significant negative effect of the intervention on visual analogue scale scores, and the clinical significance of this statistical finding is discussed. Odds ratios showed that the intervention was effective in increasing the likelihood of improvement in both jump height and eggbeater endurance. There was no correlation between changes in any of the variables of range of movement or symptoms and the performance tests. The improved performance could be a result of several mechanisms, and these are discussed. The implications of the study for clinical management of hip syndromes and for further research are also discussed.

**020 DIFFERENCE IN RANGE OF SHOULDER ROTATION IN WRIST SPIN AND FINGER SPIN CRICKET BOWLERS**

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**Objective:** To assess the range of shoulder rotation in dominant and non-dominant shoulders of wrist and finger spin bowlers in relation to increase in age and years of that type of bowling.

**Methods:** A total of 60 spin bowlers aged 10–19 were recruited from young cricketers training at centres of excellence from five counties in England in February 2003. There were 36 wrist and 24 finger spin bowlers. In both the groups, using a goniometer, passive range of internal and external rotation of the glenohumeral joint was measured in the bowling and non-bowling shoulders with the upper arm at 90° of abduction. Players were supine, and the scapulothoracic joint was stabilised, ensuring that true glenohumeral motion was measured without significant contribution from the acromioclavicular, scapulothoracic, or sternoclavicular joints.

**Results:** The mean internal rotation in the non-dominant shoulder was significantly greater than in the dominant shoulder, in both wrist and finger spin bowlers. Also, with increased age, in both types of bowler, internal rotation in the non-dominant shoulder was significantly greater than in the dominant shoulder. Similar findings were also seen with an increase in years of doing that particular kind of bowling.

**Conclusion:** Significant loss in range of internal rotation is seen at the shoulder joint in the dominant shouldermens compared with non-dominant shoulders of wrist and finger spin bowlers and also with an increase in age and years of that type of bowling. This should be considered in stretching exercises, rehabilitation protocols, and surgical repair of shoulder injury of spin bowlers.

**021 KNOWLEDGE OF BANNED SUBSTANCES IN SPORTS**

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**Aim:** To evaluate the current state of knowledge of doctors, pharmacists, and medical and pharmacy students in recognising banned drugs in Barbados.

**Method:** A self administered questionnaire testing knowledge of four banned over the counter (OTC) drugs and four banned prescription drugs was piloted and used for the study. The pharmacy and medical students completed the questionnaires in class. The pharmacists and doctors represented a convenience sample of those registered to practice. Questionnaires were administered in their workplace.

**Results:** Fewer than half of all the cohorts correctly recognised all the banned substances. In the OTC subset, 22 pharmacists (N = 45), 13 doctors (N = 45), 13 medical students (N = 37), and five pharmacy students (N = 37) were able to correctly identify all the banned preparations. The pharmacists were significantly better at identifying the banned OTC drugs than the doctors (p = 0.035) and pharmacy students (p = 0.001). In the prescription drug subset, four pharmacists, five doctors, eight medical students, and no pharmacy students correctly identified all four banned drugs.

**Conclusion:** There is lack of adequate knowledge in these cohorts on banned preparations. As athletes will seek advice on drugs in sport from these professionals and future professionals, measures should be taken to address this deficiency.

**023 MANAGEMENT OF ANKLE SPRAINS: A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL OF THE TREATMENT OF INVERSION INJURIES USING AN ELASTIC SUPPORT BANDAGE OR AN AIRCAST ANKLE BRACE**

S.H. Boyce, M.A. Quigley, S. Campbell

**Objective:** To determine the functional outcome of the ankle joint after a moderate or severe inversion injury, comparing standard treatment with an elastic support bandage against an Aircast ankle brace.

**Design:** Prospective, randomised controlled trial.

**Setting:** Two centre study, accident & emergency departments.

**Method:** Fifty patients presenting consecutively were randomised to two equal groups and allocated an elastic support bandage or an Aircast ankle brace. All patients were given a standardised advice sheet referring to rest, iced compression, and elevation. Review arrangements were made for 48–72 hours, 10 days, and one month.

**Primary outcome measure:** Ankle joint function was assessed at 10 days and one month using the modified Karlsson scoring method (maximum score 90).

**Secondary outcome measure:** The difference in ankle girth (swelling) and pain score at 10 days.

**Results:** Seventeen patients completed the study in the elastic support bandage group (six defaulted and two were excluded). Eighteen patients completed the study in the Aircast ankle brace group (six defaulted, one was excluded). There were no significant differences between the two groups in terms of age (median 33.5 years and 32.6 years for the elastic bandage and Aircast groups respectively), sex, dominant leg, left or right ankle injured, previous injury, or time to presentation (median, number of hours three and four for the elastic bandage and Aircast groups respectively). Differences in ankle girth (median 20 mm) and pain scores (median 6) were similar in the two groups at presentation. Using Student’s t test, the Karlsson score was significantly higher in the Aircast group than the elastic bandage group at day 10 (mean 50 ± 35, p = 0.028, 95% confidence interval CI 1.7 to 27.7) and at one month (mean 68 ± 55, p = 0.029, 95% CI 1.4 to 24.8). There was no difference between the groups in the secondary outcome measures (swelling, p = 0.09; pain, p = 0.07).

**Conclusion:** The use of an Aircast ankle brace to treat lateral ligament ankle sprains produces a significant improvement in ankle joint function at both 10 days and one month compared with standard management with an elastic support bandage.

**024 IS MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING OF VALUE IN THE INVESTIGATION OF GROIN PAIN? A STUDY OF 127 FOOTBALLERS**

F.W. Smith

To evaluate the value of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the pelvis for footballers complaining of groin pain, the MRI scans of 127 footballers aged 11–30 years who had been referred because of either groin or hip pain were reviewed. The footballing ability of the players covered all levels from schoolboy through to international.

In 63 cases (50%), no abnormality was found. There were 19 cases of osteitis pubis, nine of stress fracture, five of adductive muscle tear, six with hamstring problems, 10 with inflammation of the small muscles of the hip, and four of iliopectas tendonitis. The remaining 11
cases had various other findings, including two cases of benign bone tumour (one osteochondroma and one case of fibrous dysplasia). Of the 63 patients with no abnormality on the MRI scan, 10 subsequently had surgery for conjoint tendonitis. Although the MRI scan showed no significant abnormality in players who subsequently had surgery for conjoint tendonitis, MRI is useful for finding other causes of groin and hip pain. It is particularly sensitive in revealing unsuspected pathology such as stress fractures and benign bone tumours.

**025** EFFECTS OF CREATINE SUPPLEMENTATION ON THE BRAIN MONITORED BY PROTON MAGNETIC RESONANCE SPECTROSCOPY


Oral creatine supplementation can enhance exercise performance. This study investigated the effects of oral creatine supplementation on the brain using magnetic resonance (MR) spectroscopy. With ethics committee approval, 18 young sportsmen provided written informed consent and participated. In a double blind trial, 12 subjects consumed 20 g/day creatine monohydrate dissolved in a masking solution for five days, and the remaining six a placebo similarly disguised. Immediately before and after the trial, participants were scanned on a clinical MR system (Eclipse; Philips Medical). Proton spectra were obtained from frontal cerebral white matter at short and long echo times (20 and 135 milliseconds), and results were expressed as areas under the choline, creatine, and N-acetyl resonances and their ratios. After confirmation of underlying assumptions (normality, etc), spectra were compared across groups using a mixed design factorial analysis of variance (significance set at p<0.05).

There were no interactions between groups for creatine, choline, N-acetyl, or related ratios, indicating that creatine supplementation and placebo groups did not differ significantly in any of the measures (p>0.05).

The results suggest that creatine supplementation by the dosing regimen used does not significantly alter the “MR visible” creatine pool in frontal cerebral white matter in young, active sportsmen.

**026** ASSESSMENT OF IN VIVO THREE DIMENSIONAL KNEE MOVEMENT BY MRI ACQUISITION AND IMAGE REGISTRATION

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An image registration based method to calculate in vivo knee joint motion from magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) data has been developed as part of a European multicentre project aimed at developing a generic medical simulation environment (SimBio EU IST 10378). Its ultimate purpose is to permit validation of finite element computer simulations of knee joint motion, aimed at developing subject specific meniscal implant design.

A MR compatible rig was designed and built for imaging knee motion under load. All imaging was performed on a standard clinical MRI system (Eclipse; Philips Medical). High resolution static T2*-weighted volumetric knee data and quasi-dynamic T1 weighted cine images of knee movement were acquired and segmented manually. A rigid transformation method was developed to register the segmented volume on to the sparse dynamic segments, and a non-linear least squares minimisation method was used to decompose the resultant matrix into its Euler rotation components.

Calculated joint angles of the tibia relative to the femur demonstrate the knee’s screw home mechanism.

Our findings indicate that the combination of individual MRI acquisitions, image segmentation, and rigid body registration can be used to study and assess three dimensional joint motion.