

25 TESTING OF HUMAN GROWTH HORMONE IN SPORTS

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Doping with growth hormone (GH) is considered to be a major problem in sports. The use of human GH (hGH) is banned in sports by the International Olympic Committee and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) due to its anabolic effect. The traditional urine analysis methods could

not detect doping with hGH due to which the method was developed in blood for the detection of hGH. The 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, and in 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Turin primarily targeted the testing of hGH. The testing method for hGH was developed in National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) keeping in view the need to test hGH during Commonwealth Games 2010.

The development and validation of the method is done per the international protocol being followed in other WADA-accredited labs. It is now part of the ISO/IEC 17025:2005 scope of NDTL since April 2010. The presentation will focus on the NDTL's experience of participation in various proficiency testing rounds and also testing of blood samples for hGH in routine.