IMPLEMENTATION OF PSYCHIATRIC/ PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC SUPPORT WITHIN A LONGITUDINAL HEALTH MONITORING IN COMPETITIVE PARA ATHLETES

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Background Longitudinal monitoring of mental health symptoms in para athletes is rare, so are strategies to prevent and detect mental illness in this group. Ideas to lower barriers for seeking for mental help are needed.

Objective Implementation of a mental health surveillance system, using the PHQ (Patient Health Questionnaire)-4 in high-level Paralympic athletes in combination with a psychiatric/psychotherapeutic support which provided help either if athletes demanded or if PHQ-4 score exceeded 4 two weeks or longer.

Design Longitudinal weekly monitoring of depression and anxiety within the German National Paralympic Team accompanied by psychiatric/psychotherapeutic intervention.

Setting In preparation of the Paralympic Games in Tokyo, German athletes were invited to take part in a weekly, questionnaire-based monitoring program which included the PHQ-4 and level of stress.

Patients (or Participants) Data of 78 athletes was collected for one year (05/19–04/20). Within this group 21 athletes were contacted (8 male, 13 female, 8 individual sport, 13 team sport), 4 of them more than on one occasion.

Interventions (or Assessment of Risk Factors) Athletes were contacted via Email and offered support regarding mental health and wellbeing. Help to find a local sport psychiatry/psychotherapy (n=2), psychiatrist/psychotherapy (n=4) were given six times. Help to find a local sport psychiatry/psychotherapy specialist was provided in 4 cases, questions concerning medication were answered in 1 case and support in an acute stress situation in 1 case.

Conclusions The demand for psychiatric/psychotherapeutic support was high (9% of all athletes within one year). Offering an easy access to psychiatric/psychotherapeutic help seems to be an effective way to support athletes concerning mental health issues.

MAXIMISING THE RELEVANCE AND DISSEMINATION OF THE IOC MEDICAL CONSENSUS STATEMENTS: WHAT ARE THE CONSENSUS STATEMENTS AND HOW ARE THEY USED IN LITERATURE?

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Background The International Olympic Committee (IOC) Medical and Scientific Commission has a goal to provide guidance on athlete health for sports organisations. One strategy to meet this goal has been the development and publication of sports medicine consensus statements. It is currently unknown if there has been use of the consensus statements or if the overall goal of the statements – to improve athlete health and wellbeing - has been achieved.

Objective To identify and summarise citation measures of the IOC medical consensus statements.

Design Citation analysis.

Methods IOC medical consensus statements published from 2004 to 2018, and citing publications, were sourced from the IOC website, Scopus database and Google Scholar. Descriptive analyses over time of the number of consensus statements and citing documents with summaries of the authorship countries and keywords. Citation analyses were conducted to model links between consensus statements and citing publications, field weighted citation index (FWCI), and the ScImago Journal Ranking.

Results Twenty-seven consensus statements linked to the IOC medical and scientific commission were identified, addressing a range of topics from broad health and social issues to specific clinical topics. Authors from 30 countries contributed to the statements while citing papers were authored from 86 countries. Concussion was the most prominent key term in all citing documents. The youth athletic development statement has the highest FWCI (19.6), followed by concussion(18.8); load (12.3); relative energy deficiency(11.3); platelet-rich plasma (10.1); and supplements(9.9).

Conclusions Several consensus statements are widely used and cited in the literature while others have been less impactful through citation measures. The countries that use and cite elevated PHQ-4 scores. Recommendations for sport psychology (n=2), psychiatrist/psychotherapy (n=4) were given six times. Help to find a local sport psychiatry/psychotherapy specialist was provided in 4 cases, questions concerning medication were answered in 1 case and support in an acute stress situation in 1 case.
consensus statements are much more diverse globally than those that author them. Consideration of how the statements are used in practice and outside of the academic literature needs to be explored.

Background There have been 27 consensus statements published under the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Medical and Scientific Commission with a goal of contributing to the mission of injury prevention and protection of athlete health. The success of these statements in achieving this goal has not been evaluated. Knowledge management (KM) considers the identification, acquisition, creation and storage, transfer and application knowledge. The KM process of transforming knowledge into relevant and shareable information is important to consider, to ensure the statements are adaptable and useable to local contexts in sports medicine.

Objective This study uses a KM-framework to evaluate the IOC consensus statements and identify where improvements for their development and dissemination can be made.

Methods Semi-structured interviews, document analysis and field notes were utilised. Fourteen (n=14) sports medicine professionals directly involved with Olympic athlete health were interviewed in South Africa and Australia. The statements most commonly accessed through social media and used by sharing with peers, with or without a tailored summary, cited in publications and talks, or re-read when seeking a quick update on a particular topic.

Conclusions Of 27 consensus statements available, most were not widely known or used by these participants. The documents were noted as having practical information such as a decision flow chart that was easily applicable for athlete management. A further reason for use was relevance outside of the Olympic setting (e.g. sourced in preparing a policy for medical care of a sports team). The consensus statements were most commonly accessed through social media and used by sharing with peers, with or without a tailored summary, cited in publications and talks, or re-read when seeking a quick update on a particular topic.

Background One of the goals of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Medical and Scientific Commission is to provide guidance in relation to injury prevention and the protection of athlete health. One way of meeting this goal is the development and dissemination of sports medicine consensus statements. It is not known if, or how, these consensus statements are used by staff within the National Olympic medical commissions.

Objective This study aimed to identify which of the IOC medical consensus statements were most widely known and used by a selection of Olympic sports medicine professionals in South Africa and Australia, and how they were accessed, regarded and used.

Methods Bibliometric analysis, literature review and qualitative case study, including interviews with fourteen South African and Australian sports physicians/physiotherapists. A proposed new KM framework is presented with practical examples of current and proposed steps for improving the development, dissemination and use of the IOC consensus statements.

Results The framework shows how knowledge (both tacit and explicit) is currently brought together in a consensus statement. This process is led by international scientific/clinical experts, but there is scope to include athletes and/or coaches. Subsequently, the steps of gathering knowledge and tailoring it into relevant and shareable information are outlined. Examples for improvement include consistent formatting and key word choices in the written statements, the inclusion of athlete/coach take home summaries and a wider range of dissemination formats to accommodate different access preferences. Stronger awareness of who the audience is and what the consensus statements seek to do are also highlighted.

Conclusions A KM-framework is highly applicable for the development and dissemination of the Consensus Statements. Short, simple changes as well as longer-term, more resource intensive opportunities, could help to increase visibility and applicability in practice.

Background Overhead athletes often perform shoulder movements with high velocity and extreme range of motion, thus translating into an increased risk of injury. The ability to prevent this injury is key in protecting athletes. Preventive strategies are often used to protect overhead athletes. The aim of this study was to determine the self-reported preventive strategies that are used by overhead athletes.