

Annual report

2019

---

DIVISION FOR ANTI-DOPING OF THE  
CROATIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH (CIPH)

## Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	2
1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPROVEMENT .....	4
2. DOPING CONTROLS, INVESTIGATIONS AND RESULTS MANAGEMENT .....	5
3. DOPING PREVENTION.....	14
4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION .....	18
5. THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS.....	20
6. MEDICINE AND SCIENCE .....	22
7. PREMISES AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE.....	23

## INTRODUCTION

As of January 1, 2019, with the entry into force of the Healthcare Act (Official Gazette 100/2018), and in accordance with the provision of Article 274, the Croatian Institute of Public Health (hereinafter referred to as the CIPH) has assumed all obligations and activities of the Croatian Institute for Toxicology and Anti-Doping (hereinafter referred to as CITA). In this transition, CITA Department for Anti-Doping is positioned as Division for Anti-Doping within the Croatian Institute of Public Health (hereinafter referred to as the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping).

The main goal of the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping is to protect the fundamental right of athletes to engage in doping-free sport and thus promote health, fairness and equality for all athletes.

This goal is achieved through creation and implementation of harmonized, uniformed and effective anti-doping programs at national and international levels.

In pursuing the goal, through its Division for Anti-Doping, CIPH proposes and implements measures in the fight against doping, applies the CIPH Anti-Doping Rules, the provisions of the UNESCO Convention, the WADA Code (World Anti-Doping Agency), rules of international sports federations and the International Olympic Committee, and conducts systematic monitoring and coordination of activities of government and non-governmental organizations.

In the fight against doping, CIPH cooperates with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Science and Education, the Central State Office for Sports, the Ministry of the Interior, the State Attorney's Office, the Office of the Ombudsman for Children, the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Culture—UNESCO Office, the Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices of Croatia and national anti-doping organizations from other countries.

CIPH's non-governmental partners in the fight against doping in sport are UNESCO, WADA, the European Council, iNADO, the Croatian Olympic Committee, the Croatian Paralympic Committee, the Croatian Olympic Committee's Health Commission, the University of Zagreb School of Medicine, the Croatian Medical Chamber, the University of Zagreb Faculty of

Kinesiology, the Croatian Olympic Academy, the Croatian School Sports Federation, UEFA and other international and national sports federations and clubs.

In 2020, CIPH Division for Anti-Doping was active in seven main areas:

1. Legal framework implementation and improvement
2. Conducting doping controls, investigations and results management
3. Doping prevention
4. International cooperation
5. Therapeutic Use Exemptions
6. Medicine and science
7. Premises and equipment maintenance.

## 1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPROVEMENT

Since 2019, as a legal successor of the CITA, CIPH has become bound by the WADA Code. A Contract has been signed between WADA and CIPH regarding the use of the ADAMS system.

CIPH Governing Council accepted the CIPH Anti-Doping Rules, Rules on Doping Control, Rules on Accreditation, Re-accreditation and Supervision of the Work of the Doping Control Officials, Therapeutic Use Exemption Rules, Hearing panel and Appeal panel Rules of Procedure and Science Council Rules of Procedure, which entered into force on February 5, 2019. CIPH Governing Council also confirmed the existing mandate of the members of the TUE Committee, Hearing Panel, Appeal Panel and Science Council, and upon the expiration of the mandate confirmed the new mandate of the Hearing panel and Appeal Panel.

By means of its Anti-Doping Rules, in 2019 CIPH continues to implement the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Agency's Code, the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions, the International Standard for Testing and Investigations, the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information, the International Standard for Laboratories, Prohibited List and the International Standard on Compliance with the Code.

In May 2019, the founding meeting of CEADO (Central European Anti-Doping Organization) was held in Budapest. CEADO members are anti-doping organizations of Austria (NADA Austria), Hungary (HUNADO), Poland (POLADA), Slovakia (SADA), Slovenia (SLOADO), Serbia (ADAS) and Croatia (CIPH). Following its founding, CEADO members' information exchange activities continued, and two meetings were held, one during the 5th. World Conference on Doping in Sport in Katowice, and the other during the annual symposium of the Seibersdorf laboratory.

In cooperation with the Central State Office for Sports and in consultation with the Ministry of Health, preparations were made for the monitoring visit of the Advisory Group on Compliance to the Anti-Doping Convention of the Council of Europe and WADA. Preparations for the monitoring visit of the Council of Europe and WADA were carried out in accordance with the Council of Europe's instructions in order to fulfil the obligations under the Anti-Doping Convention of the Council of Europe and WADA Code.

From June 3 to 5, 2019, as part of the Council of Europe's and WADA's monitoring visit meetings were held with the CIPH Division For Anti-Doping, CIPH Directorate, Ministry of Health, Central State Office for Sports, Croatian Olympic Committee and Croatian Paralympic Committee. Based on the Council of Europe's and WADA's monitoring visit reports, the activities for ensuring compliance with the Convention have been initiated. It was proposed, a Working Group for anti-doping policy coordination should be set up, in order to effectively share information and plan an anti-doping strategy at the level of government and non-governmental bodies involved in sports development and/or doping issues in the Republic of Croatia.

## **2. DOPING CONTROLS, INVESTIGATIONS AND RESULTS MANAGEMENT**

In 2019, the testing was conducted in accordance with the 2019 Test Distribution Plan and WADA's Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis (TDSSA). In accordance with international trends in the fight against doping, when planning and implementing testing we are increasingly relying on data collected from various sources related to the possible use of prohibited substances and resources.

### **Testing**

The 2019 Test Distribution Plan was created in accordance with Article 4.2 of the WADA International Standard for Testing and Investigation, in which risk factors for each sport were estimated, taking into account the history of doping and the popularity of certain sports in the Republic of Croatia. Based on experience from previous years, an increase of the number of testing is planned in sports with the highest estimated likelihood of doping. WADA's Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis (TDSSA2019) was consistently applied in the Test Distribution Plan.

In 2019, a total of 612 doping controls were conducted in the national program, 312 of which in competition, and 300 out of competition. 63 blood tests, and 549 urine tests were performed (as biological material). 25 blood tests for the biological passport were performed.

88 analysis of exogenous administration of erythropoiesis-stimulating agents, 62 analysis of exogenous administration of growth hormone release factors, and 61 analysis of exogenous administration of the growth hormone were performed.

As part of the international cooperation, a total of 118 doping controls were conducted, 115 of which in-competition, and 3 out-of-competition. 117 urine tests (as biological material) and 1 blood test were performed.

*Doping controls in the national program*

SPORT	IN-COMPETITION	OUT-OF-COMPETITION	BLOOD	URINE	TOTAL
swimming	25	15	2	38	40
water polo	16	20	5	31	36
athletics	37	38	6	69	75
cycling	0	12	1	11	12
gymnastics	0	19	1	18	19
karate	6	11	3	14	17
powerlifting	23	9	12	20	32
rowing	6	9	2	13	15
sailing	0	4	1	3	4
boxing	7	11	0	18	18
shooting	0	6	0	6	6
judo	6	17	1	22	23
taekwondo	6	12	2	16	18
diving	6	7	1	12	13
volleyball	30	20	0	50	50
soccer	48	20	7	61	68
wrestling	6	12	2	16	18
handball	30	20	5	45	50
basketball	34	20	6	48	54
weightlifting	8	0	4	4	8
fencing	4	0	0	4	4
shooting—deaf	0	6	0	6	6
athletics—paralympic athletes	4	0	2	2	4
skiing—deaf	0	1	0	1	1

---

armwrestling	6	0	0	6	6
curling—deaf	0	5	0	5	5
chess—deaf	0	6	0	6	6
bodybuilding	4	0	0	4	4

*Doping controls at international sport events in Croatia*

SPORT	IN-COMPETITION	OUT-OF-COMPETITION	BLOOD	URINE
volleyball	4	0	0	4
athletics	0	2	0	2
handball	4	0	0	4
water polo	10	0	0	10
fencing	2	0	0	2
judo	8	0	0	8
wrestling	10	0	1	9
archery	31	0	0	31
skiing—paralympic athletes	4	0	0	4
sport fishing	2	0	0	2
skating	16	0	0	16
kayak canu	0	1	0	1
bridge	4	0	0	4
shooting—paralympic athletes	10	0	0	10
crossbow	2	0	0	2
bowls	8	0	0	8

In cooperation with international sports institutions, athletes have been tested at major sport events in the Republic of Croatia, the European Athletics Championship, the Gymnastics World Cup, the Fishing World Championship, the European Shooting Championship, the World Junior Figure Skating Championship, the Judo Grand Prix, and a number of international tournaments in various sports in the Republic of Croatia.

In accordance with Article 4.2 of the International Standard for Testing and Investigation, we have created a Test Distribution Plan with the minimum number of required analyses and in accordance with the Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis TDSSA2019. CIPH Division for Anti-Doping implemented the Plan, and WADA monitored and controlled the implementation.

Since 2014, CIPH Division for Anti-Doping continued the implementation of the steroidal module of the Athlete Biological Passport program, which is very reliable in detecting the lowest concentrations of exogenously administered substances of S1 category (Anabolic steroids) belonging to unspecified substances.

In agreement with WADA and the Seibersdorf laboratory, in the second half of 2017, a haematological module of the Athlete Biological Passport was introduced. In 2019, the haematological module of the Athlete Biological Passport program included thirteen athletes.

Monitoring of sport specific analyses was enabled by the enhancement of the APLIKAT program.

### **Registered Testing Pool**

At the beginning of the year, there were 50 athletes in the Registered Testing Pool. Athletes were provided with assistance in delivering their whereabouts information, education and a 24/7 telephone support. WADA's Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis was applied to the Registered Testing Pool in accordance with the Test Distribution Plan.

### **Doping Control Officials**

Supervision of the work of the Doping Control Officials was carried out in accordance with the Plan and new requirements of the Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis. The supervision in competitions was conducted at international competitions, Croatian championships and league competitions in accordance with the Test Distribution Plan.

On October 22 and 23, 2019 a course was held for 4 new Doping Control Officials.

A re-accreditation of Doping Control Officials and a workshop on doping were held in Zagreb on December 6 and 7, 2019. Directors of national anti-doping organizations of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovenia also participated in the workshop.

### **Program testing support**

Monitoring of sport specific analyses was enabled by the usage of the APLIKAT program.

### **Sample management**

In order to strengthen the chain of custody and maintain the highest possible quality of samples for analysis, in addition to existing measures of holding samples and a storage and warning system, additional procedures for improving the quality of samples during transport using portable cool boxes with data logger were introduced in accordance with the provisions of the International Standard for Testing and Investigation.

### **Investigations and data collection**

Unit for Collection, Evaluation and Usage of Data related to anti-doping rule violations has been integrated into the Testing and Investigation Department of the Division For Anti-Doping of the Croatian Institute of Public Health.

Website of the Division For Anti-Doping includes a “Speak up” portal where all interested parties can anonymously report a violation of anti-doping rules. Athletes, sports officials and sports fans in Croatia can use this opportunity, report doping and thus contribute to the fight for clean sport.

### **Whereabouts failures**

In 2019, eight missed tests were recorded.

### **Results management**

One athlete tested positive for recombinant erythropoietin and his case was taken over by the International Federation (AIU).

### **Hearing panel**

As part of the results management, ten sessions of the CIPH Hearing panel were held (one session was held in two parts (SP 07/19)).

One athlete submitted a request for the suspension of a part of his period of ineligibility, but no grounds were found for accepting the request, and it was denied (SP 05/19).

Hearing panels in disciplinary proceedings for three athletes who tested positive for Prohibited Substances in 2018 were held in 2019. They were imposed with a period of ineligibility of four months to one year for violation of provision 2.1 of the Rules.

In 2019, four athletes tested positive for Prohibited Substances and were imposed with a period of ineligibility of eight months to four years for violation of provision 2.1 of the Rules. One athlete refused to attend the doping control and was imposed with a four-year period of ineligibility for violation of provision 2.3 of the Rules. One athlete left during the doping control and was imposed with a two-year period of ineligibility for violation of provision 2.3 of the Rules. Hearing panel session in disciplinary proceedings SP 06/19 scheduled for July 2, 2019 was postponed due to the absence of a member of the Hearing panel.

*In 2019, CIPH Hearing panel held ten (10) sessions for violation of provisions of the CIPH Anti-Doping Rules:*

*Table of sessions of the Hearing panel*

Session date	Sport	Athlete in violation	Type and category of substances from the List	Disciplinary measure	Violated provision of the Rules	Remark
08/02/2019 SP 09/18	volleyball	athlete	Carboxy-THC (S8)	8 months of ineligibility	2.1	proceedings from 2018.
14/02/2019 SP 08/18	handball	athlete	Octopamine (S6.b)	1 year of ineligibility	2.1	proceedings from 2018. / appeal by CIPH
14/02/2019 SP 10/18	basketball	athlete	Terbutaline (S.3)	4 months of ineligibility	2.1	proceedings from 2018.
23/04/2019 SP 01/19	handball	athlete	cocaine and its metabolites (S6.a)	2 years of ineligibility	2.1	
24/04/2019 SP 02/19	armwrestling	athlete	Metandienone (S1.a)	4 years of ineligibility	2.1	
13/05/2019 SP 03/19	powerlifting	athlete	Trenbolone (S1.a), Norandrosterone (S1.b)	4 years of ineligibility	2.1	
23/05/2019 SP 04/19	swimming	athlete	Carboxy-THC (S8)	8 months of ineligibility	2.1	
30/05/2019 SP 05/19	ice hockey	athlete		suspension of a part of period of ineligibility was denied	2.5	proceedings from 2017. / 4 years of ineligibility
11/09/2019 SP 06/19	bodybuilding	athlete		4 years of ineligibility	2.3	02/07/2019 session of the HP postponed
04/07/2019 / 12/09/2019 SP 07/19	bodybuilding	athlete		2 years of ineligibility	2.3	HP session held in two parts / appeal by CIPH

### Appeal panel

In 2019, CIPH Appeal panel held two sessions.

In the appeal proceedings ŽP 01/19, the Appeal panel accepted CIPH's appeal and amended the decision of the Hearing panel in disciplinary proceedings SP 08/18, and imposed the athlete with a period of ineligibility of two years for violation of provision 2.1 of the Rules.

In the appeal proceedings ŽP 02/19, the Appeal panel accepted CIPH's appeal and amended the decision of the Hearing panel in disciplinary proceedings SP 07/19, and imposed the athlete with a period of ineligibility of four years for violation of provision 2.3 of the Rules.

*In 2019, CIPH Appeal panel held two (2) sessions for violation of provisions of the CIPH Anti-Doping Rules:*

*Table of sessions of the Appeal panel*

Session date	Sport	Athlete in violation	Type and category of substances from the List	Disciplinary measure	Violated provision of the Rules	Remark
15/05/2019 ŽP 01/19	handball	athlete	Octopamine (S6.b)	amended decision of the Hearing panel, imposed period of ineligibility of 2 years	2.1	SP 08/18
09/12/2019 ŽP 02/19	bodybuilding	athlete		amended decision of the Hearing panel, imposed period of ineligibility of 4 years	2.3	SP 07/19

### 3. DOPING PREVENTION

As in the previous year, we continued to inform and educate target groups on the harmful consequences of doping and the applicable regulations. Target groups were athletes from the Registered Testing Pool, professional athletes, athletes competing in top leagues, international athletes, athletes from “sports at risk”, Olympic candidates, and other participants in top sport (coaches, physicians, physiotherapists, etc.). The education was performed in form of lectures, through the Athlete Outreach Program, the NE!DOPINGU magazine, our website, brochures and flyers, and other activities.

#### Lectures

During 2019, a total of thirty (30) lectures were held, and approximately 1,600 people participated in this form of education. In addition to the athletes, the education also included teachers, students, coaches, lawyers, judges, doctors and Doping Control Officials.

In the reporting period, the good cooperation with the Croatian Olympic Committee’s Health Commission was continued which enabled us to present the 2019 Prohibited list.

#### *Lectures by sport*

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES</b>
athletics	5
auto racing	1
boxing	1
wrestling	1
kickboxing	1
basketball	1
handball	3

#### *Lectures by target groups*

<b>TYPE OF LECTURE / LEVEL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF LECTURES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS</b>
NON SPECIFIC*	15	1,232
NATIONAL LEVEL	11	340
INTERNATIONAL LEVEL	1	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1602</b>

\* target groups including coaches, lawyers, judges, doctors, pharmacists, students, Doping Control Officials

### **“Doping prevention in schools” course**

During 2019, CIPH Division For Anti-Doping participated in a professional conference organized by the Croatian School Sports Federation by holding a lecture called “Doping prevention in schools”. The course was held at the Faculty of Kinesiology and was attended by about 700 educators. The purpose of this course is to train educators to educate students in the field of anti-doping in order to prevent the harmful effects of doping. We plan to continue to hold these courses in the future.

### **Athlete Outreach**

In the same period, four (4) Athlete Outreach Programs were implemented with a total of ten (10) activities —Athlete Outreach Days—and about 500 people were educated.

#### *Overview of the Athlete Outreach Program educational activities*

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES*</b>
hockey	5
karate	3
skating	2

\* expressed in days of the implemented activities (Athlete Outreach days)

## **Printed materials**

The 2019 Prohibited list was printed at the end of 2018 with a total of 1,500 copies in standard format, and it was distributed to users in January 2019. The List can also be found on the website of the Institution since December 2018.

At the end of 2019, the 2020 Prohibited list was prepared and printed with a total of 1,500 copies in standard format.

During 2019, the last issue of 2018 NE!DOPINGU magazine was published in 600 copies, and a 2019 compilation issue of NE!DOPINGU magazine in 1,000 copies. The magazine was distributed to national federations, sports clubs, schools, health institutions, athletes, sports officials and members of the committees within the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping.

In December 2019, an information leaflet was prepared and printed for the purpose of educating and informing the sports community about the possibilities of seeking advice on anti-doping and dietary supplements. Online education through WADA Alpha program was also highlighted. The leaflet was printed in 3,000 copies and we began the distribution to the sports community.

## **WADA Alpha**

The Division for Anti-Doping, in cooperation with WADA, implemented promotional activities of the Athlete Learning Program about Health and Anti-Doping (ALPHA) project . The ALPHA online education program in Croatian has been available to athletes and other persons interested in online education on anti-doping on the website of the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping since 2017. It is a program designed for comprehensive education of athletes in the field of anti-doping, which includes a knowledge assessment and certification. During the reporting period, in cooperation with WADA, the Croatian version of the ALPHA program was set up on a new platform (ADeL). The new platform enables monitoring of applicants in the ALPHA program, which is a significant parameter in measuring the interest of athletes and the sports community in the field of anti-doping. Also, in cooperation with WADA, the Croatian version of WADA Alpha 2.0 was prepared at the end of 2019, and it is available to athletes and the sports community, as well as to general population, through the ADeL platform.

## **Website**

The website of the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping was actively used for continuous quality information and education of all participants in sport. Athletes and all interested participants in sport were given access to a List of registered medicines in Croatia containing some of the substances on the Prohibited list. This List is continuously updated on a monthly base in cooperation with the Croatian Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices. We also provided support for all other segments of anti-doping activities (education, Therapeutic Use Exemptions, legislation, brochures, etc.) on the website. A WADA video explaining the doping control procedure with Croatian translation is also uploaded on the website.

## **Platforms for the secure transmission of confidential information**

Throughout 2019, we continued to use of the system for applying for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and reporting suspicions related to the use of doping, as these are sensitive areas where it is particularly necessary to protect the received information (personal data, medical information, data which is strictly confidential in its own right nature and must be protected from unauthorized access).

## **Newsletter**

During the reporting period, the distribution of the anti-doping newsletter (two (2) newsletters per month) continued. The purpose of the newsletter is to intensify communication with interested parties in the sports community in Croatia.

## **Public relations**

The media play an extremely important role in conveying anti-doping information. Our cooperation with the Croatian media is good. After each press release, we answer questions from journalists regarding the published case, to the extent permitted by the provisions of the Code.

## 4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

During 2019, Division for Anti-Doping participated in the following activities as part of international cooperation:

- Cooperation with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
- Cooperation with the Institute of National Anti-Doping Organisations (iNADO)
- Cooperation with Council of Europe's Anti-Doping bodies, Ad Hoc European Committee for the World Anti-Doping Agency (CAHAMA)
- Cooperation with Council of Europe's Anti-Doping bodies, Council of Europe's Advisory Groups on Science (T-DO)
- Participation in activities of the Central European Anti-Doping Organization (CEADO)
- Collaboration with the laboratory in Seibersdorf
- Participation in the session of the EU Working Party on Sport
- Participation in the election of the new WADA president as part of the CAHAMA session
- Preparatory activities and participation in the WADA World Congress in Lausanne (March 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the iNADO annual meeting and workshop in Lausanne (March 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the Symposium of the Anti-Doping Convention (T-DO) in Athens commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Council of Europe's Convention (April 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the meeting of the Ad Hoc European Committee for WADA (CAHAMA) and Council of Europe's Monitoring Group (T-DO) in Bucharest, Romania (May 2019)
- Participation in the founding meeting of CEADO (Central European Anti-Doping Organization) in Budapest (May 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the meeting of the Council of Europe's Monitoring Group on Education (T-DO) in London, England (September 2019)

- Preparatory activities and participation in the Clean Sport Insight Forum in London, England (September, 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the meeting of the Ad Hoc European Committee for WADA (CAHAMA) and Advisory Group on Legal Issues of the Council of Europe's Monitoring Group (T-DO) in Strasbourg, France (September 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the meeting of the Ad Hoc European Committee for WADA (CAHAMA) and Council of Europe's Monitoring Group on Compliance with the Anti-Doping Convention (T-DO) in Strasbourg, France (October 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the 7th CoP on Anti-Doping Convention UNESCO, Paris (October 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the 5th World Conference on Doping in Sport in Katowice, Poland (November 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the iNADO CEO Forum and CEADO meeting in Katowice, Poland (November 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the International Annual Meeting of Seibersdorf laboratory, in Seibersdorf, Austria (November, 2019)
- Preparatory activities and participation in the CEADO meeting of Seibersdorf laboratory, in Seibersdorf, Austria (November, 2019)
- Collaboration on a research project—preparation of documentation based on questionnaires from the research of educating sports coaches, which collected data from NADOs of different countries, and giving interviews regarding education programs in Croatia and the specifics of the education of coaches—research is conducted at the Carnegie School of Sport, Leeds Beckett University, Fairfax 202, Headingley Campus, Leeds, LS6 3QS, United Kingdom
- Cooperation with the European Football Federation (UEFA)
- Cooperation in the field of testing with the Estonian National Anti-Doping Agency (EADA)
- Cooperation in the field of testing with the International Swimming Federation (FINA)
- Cooperation in the field of education with the International Skating Union (ISU)
- Cooperation in the field of education with the International Ice Hockey Federation
- Cooperation in the field of education with the International Testing Agency (ITA)
- Cooperation in the field of education with the World Karate Federation (WKF)

## 5. THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS

During the reporting period, the work of the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee was performed in accordance with the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and the Therapeutic Use Exemption Rules.

During 2019, sixteen (16) applications for Therapeutic Use Exemption were received. The Committee reviewed (11) individual TUE applications (all were eligible under the TUE Guidelines). In five (5) cases of TUE applications, the conditions for reviewing the applications at the Committee session were not met. A total of ten (10) Therapeutic Use Exemptions were granted at the Committee sessions in 2019—six (6) prospective and four (4) retroactive TUEs. In one (1) case, the Therapeutic Use Exemption was not granted because the information in the medical records was insufficient to grant the Therapeutic Use Exemption. Unjustified TUE applications were resolved administratively without convening Committee sessions.

*Table with granted Therapeutic Use Exemptions*

active substance	diagnosis	TUE type
dexamethasone	lumbago with sciatica	A
prednisone	capillary bleeding (ANCA positive)	RA
prednisone	IgA nephropathy, chronic renal insuff. gr. III	RA
prednisone	acute sinusitis	RA
hydrochlorothiazide	arterial hypertension	A
hydrochlorothiazide	arterial hypertension	A
insulin, hydrochlorothiazide	diabetes mellitus; arterial hypertension	A
somatropin	growth retardation due to growth hormone deficiency	A
vilanterol	asthma	A
indapamide, trimetazidine	arterial hypertension, post-myocardial infarction status	RA

*Table with denied applications for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*

active substance	diagnosis	TUE type
------------------	-----------	----------

testosterone	hypogonadism (post-orchidectomy status)	RA
--------------	---	----

*Table with unjustified applications for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*

active substance	diagnosis	reason
salbutamol	bronchial asthma	local administration
vilanterol	bronchial asthma	records older than 12 months
growth hormone	unknown diagnosis	medical records were not provided
dexamethasone	lumbago with sciatica	untimely application
insulin, hydrochlorothiazide	diabetes	international level athlete

All decisions of the TUE Committee from the reporting period have been entered into the ADAMS system and were thus made available to WADA and other authorized organizations. In this way, the transparency of the procedure for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and the work of TUE Committee is ensured.

Regarding the entry into force of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on May 25, 2018, a system of secure electronic submission of TUE applications, i.e. via a “secure TUE portal”, was implemented, safeguarding the personal and confidential information of applicants as much as possible. In accordance with the updates of the security measures for the protection of such information, additional means for submitting TUE applications are available, such as registered mail and/or personal submission at the Division for Anti-Doping of the Croatian Institute of Public Health.

## 6. MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

The Counselling Centre continued to provide services to athletes in competitive and recreational sports, medical staff in sports federations and clubs, occupational medicine and sports medicine specialists, physicians of other specialities involved in treating athletes, sports officials and other persons related to the problems of use of medications in sports. The services of the Counselling Centre include:

- counselling about doping in sport (counselling athletes, coaches, physiotherapists, physicians)
- inquiries and counselling other persons in the field of doping (parents of athletes, physical education teachers, pedagogues, fitness instructors, pharmacists, physicians, and other persons)
- procurement of materials needed to develop a new method for detecting erythropoietin and its derivatives.

In 2019, numerous consultations were carried out through the work of the Counselling Centre for Anti-Doping and Rational Pharmacotherapy in Sports and sixty (60) inquiries by sports physicians, athletes and coaches concerning the use of medications and dietary supplements were answered. Most of the questions were related to the safety of taking various dietary supplements. The questions relating to medications included taking medications such as antibiotics, inhaled glucocorticoids, thyroid hormone replacement therapy, progestogens, analgesics, antihistamines, antihypertensives, proton pump inhibitors, antiepileptics, antidepressants, local decongestants, but also anabolic steroids, glucocorticoids, non-specific stimuli and cannabis. Several inquiries about the substances on the List of prohibited substances (Official Gazette, No. 116/13) were received from the Customs Administration.

## **7. PREMISES AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**

In 2019, necessary supplies (doping control kits) and necessary equipment were procured.