



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

IOC Needle Policy for the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio in 2016

The Olympic Games are “needle-free” for all participating athletes (“**Athletes**”). Needles must not be used except by: (i) medically qualified practitioners for the clinically justified treatment of injury, illness or other medical conditions (for which a valid TUE may be required); or (ii) those requiring auto-injection therapy for an established medical condition with a valid TUE, e.g. for insulin dependent diabetes.

It is the responsibility of each Athlete, his/her entourage and each National Olympic Committee (“NOC”) to ensure compliance with this IOC Needle Policy. In particular, each NOC must ensure that:

- (i) Any needles, and associated clinical materials, intended for use by members of its delegation are stored in a central secured location, access to which is restricted to authorized medical personnel of the NOC delegation. Athletes with a valid TUE for the use of insulin, and non-athletes requiring other forms of auto-injection may keep appropriate materials with them if safely stored and disposed of in accordance with point (ii) below;
- (ii) all used needles and associated materials (vials, syringes, and swabs) are safely disposed of in an appropriate bio-hazards container (e.g. “sharps bin”). If necessary, these may be procured from the pharmacy at the Olympic Village Polyclinic;
- (iii) whenever an Athlete receives an injection during the period of the XXXI Olympic Games (i.e. from the date of the opening of the Olympic Village on 24 July 2016 to and including the date of the Closing Ceremony on 21 August 2016), the attached “Injection Declaration Form” is duly completed and forwarded to the IOC Medical Commission no later than noon the day following such injection. This applies to all injections administered to Athletes whether they occur in the Olympic Village, elsewhere in the Host Country of the Games or in another country;
- (iv) Injection Declaration Forms are completed legibly in English or French and any additional evidence attesting to the need for injection therapy (e.g. imaging, laboratory reports), are attached. The completed Injection Declaration Form may be faxed, e-mailed or placed into the Injection Declaration Form box at the Olympic Village Polyclinic.

No Injection Declaration Form is required if the injection has been administered by a medically qualified practitioner from the Rio OCOG and the injection has been recorded in the ATOS medical encounter system. Acupuncture or the use of dry needling techniques are not considered to be a medical injection and thus an Injection Declaration Form is not required for these treatments.



Failure to respect this IOC Needle Policy, including failure to submit a completed Injection Declaration Form to the IOC Medical Commission, may expose the Athlete(s), the entourage of the Athlete(s), the NOC and members of its delegation as well as the person(s) having administered the injection to disciplinary action, additional testing and sanctions, as determined by the IOC Executive Board.

Medical justification of injections:

There is no justification for any Athlete (except those with an established clinical condition requiring auto-injection and a valid TUE), a coach or any other non-medically qualified person to administer an injection.

Injections are only permitted when there is a clinically justified reason for such an intervention as determined by the IOC Medical Commission. All completed Injection Declaration Forms will be reviewed by the IOC Medical Commission. Any concerns identified as a result will prompt a review of the rationale and justification for the treatment by a panel of physicians convened by the IOC Medical Commission. Ordinarily this review will include a meeting with the practitioner(s) involved in the administration of the injection.

If there is a dispute as to whether the medical justification of the injection is accepted as normal medical practice (as defined above), the issue may be referred to the IOC Executive Board by the Chairman of the IOC Medical Commission.

If the relevant NOC or International Federation also has rules in place regarding the subject matter dealt with herein, the rules of the relevant NOC or International Federation shall also apply. In the event of any conflict between such rules and the present Policy, during the period of the XXXI Olympic Games in Rio in 2016, the IOC Executive Board shall resolve the discrepancy.



**IOC NEEDLE POLICY
INJECTION DECLARATION FORM**

XXXI Olympic Games in Rio in 2016
(Please complete legibly in English or French)

Email : medicalgames@olympic.org – Fax to : +41 21 621 63 66
(Email and Fax effective from opening of Olympic Village to Closing Ceremony)

ATHLETE	
Name of the Athlete having received the injection:	
Representing National Olympic Committee of:	Sport:
Date of Birth:	Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
INJECTION	
Substance(s) Injected:	
Date and place of injection:	
MEDICAL JUSTIFICATION	
Justification for injection, including clinical history and diagnosis (attach confirmatory evidence when available):	
PERSON HAVING ADMINISTERED THE INJECTION	
Name, mobile number and e-mail address of person having administered the injection:	
Specialty:	Licensed to practice in:
Signature of the person having administered the injection: <i>By my signature, I hereby confirm that the information in this form is true and accurate and that the injection was medically justified and necessary, and administered in accordance with the IOC Needle Policy, including safe disposal of needles and associated materials.</i>	
Signature: _____ Date: _____	