

C: Medications in Netball Rule

Replaces the Rule effective 1 January 2014 and 1 May 2016

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A. Overview

- A.1. Netball Australia accepts that Athletes may require medication for the treatment of illness or injury. Such medications may include Prescription medicines, or Over-the-Counter medicines, or Complementary medicines.
- A.2. Netball Australia condemns doping and the use of illegal, experimental and non-approved substances and methods as fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport.
- A.3. Netball Australia adheres to the World Anti-Doping Program and supports the anti-doping functions, powers and responsibilities of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority.
- A.4. Non-medical Athlete and Team Support Personnel are strictly prohibited, under all circumstances, from dispensing, distributing, or recommending for the improvement of health or performance, any Prescription medicine, Over-the-Counter medicine, Complementary medicine and Supplement purported to improve health or performance to any Athlete.

B. Context

- B.1. This Rule is not intended to capture Prescription medicine, Over-the-Counter medicine, Complementary medicine and Supplements where an Athlete has an approved Therapeutic Use Exemption under applicable anti-doping policies or from Netball Australia's Chief Medical Officer or an Authorised Netball Provider's Medical Officer.
- B.2. This Rule shall not prevent the Athlete from receiving Prescription medicine, Over-the-Counter medicine, Complementary medicine and Supplement for necessary medical treatment

C. Related Policies

- C.1. Self-injection of substances is strictly prohibited under Netball Australia's No Self-Injection Rule.

D. Who Does this Rule Apply to?

- D.1. This Rule applies to:
 - D.1.1. Athletes.
 - D.1.2. Coaches.

- D.1.3. Athlete and Team Support Personnel¹.
- D.1.4. Any other Person who has agreed to be bound by this Rule.
- D.2. All Persons are automatically bound by and required to comply with all of the provisions of this Rule. Accordingly, all Persons shall be deemed to accept all terms set out herein and have agreed that it is their personal responsibility to:
 - D.2.1. Understand that there is a real risk that Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements could contain a prohibited substance (or its metabolites or markers) on the World Anti-Doping Agency Prohibited List. This prohibited substance may be declared on the label, or may result from contamination during manufacture or in the case of complementary medicines and supplements may be contained in the substance but not be listed on the label.
 - D.2.2. Take Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements in accordance with the instructions of their medical practitioner and the normal directions applicable to the medication they are using.
 - D.2.3. Take Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements only for the conditions for which they are designated and not misuse or abuse prescription or pharmacy drugs.
 - D.2.4. To consult with their medical practitioner or pharmacist in relation to any adverse effects their Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements may have upon either their on-court and off-court ability to safely and effectively perform their duties.
 - D.2.5. Not take Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements prescribed for other people, even if their symptoms seem similar. (The Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements prescribed to the Athlete by their doctor is individually tailored to help that individual Athlete; other Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements may not be suitable and can have adverse effects).
 - D.2.6. Not take Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements that have expired.
 - D.2.7. Adhere to medication protocols and instructions communicated by Netball Australia Provider's Chief Medical Offices or an Authorised Netball Provider's Chief Medical Officer or similar.

E. Rule Offences

- E.1. This Rule is contravened where:
 - E.1.1. An Athlete does not take Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements in accordance with the instructions of their medical practitioner and the normal directions applicable to the medication they are using.
 - E.1.2. An Athlete does not take Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements for the conditions for which they are designated and misuse or abuse prescription or pharmacy drugs.
 - E.1.3. An Athlete takes Prescription medicines, Over-the-Counter medicines, Complementary medicines and Supplements prescribed for other people.

¹ Note: It is recognised that Athlete and Team Support Personnel in certain professions may be subject to legal obligations with respect to confidentiality and disclosure.

- E.1.4. An Athlete does not adhere to medication protocols and instructions communicated by Netball Australia's Chief Medical Officer or an Authorised Netball Provider's Chief Medical Officer or similar.
- E.1.5. Non-medical Athlete and Team Support Personnel dispense, distribute, administer or recommend for the improvement of health or performance, any Prescription medicine, Over-the-Counter medicine, Complementary medicine and Supplement purported to improve health or performance to any Athlete.
- E.1.6. Medical Team Support Personnel, other than for genuine medical and permissible therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification, dispense, distribute, administer or recommend for the improvement of health or performance, any Prescription medicine, Over-the-Counter medicine, Complementary medicine and Supplement purported to improve health or performance to any Athlete.
- E.1.7. A Person is Complicit.
- E.1.8. A Person fails to promptly disclose to the Chief Executive Officer of Netball Australia, or Nominated Delegate, that a Person has received an approach to breach this Rule.
- E.1.9. A Person fails to promptly disclose to the Chief Executive Officer of Netball Australia, or Nominated Delegate, that the Person knows or reasonably suspects that any current or former Person has engaged in conduct, or been approached to engage in conduct that may be a breach of this Rule.

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