

Annual
Report

2022

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

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INTRODUCTION

As of January 1, 2019, with the entry into force of the Health Care 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 principal 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 program at national and international levels.

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

For the purpose of implementing measures and activities of the anti-doping program, the Division for Anti-Doping cooperates with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Tourism and Sport – Directorate for Sport, the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration, the Ministry of the Interior, the State Attorney's Office, the Ministry of Finance – Customs Administration, the Office of the Ombudsman for Children, the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the Ministry of Culture and Media — UNESCO Department, and the Ministry of Science and Education.

Within the scope of non-governmental organizations, the Division for Anti-Doping cooperates with UNESCO, WADA, Council of Europe, iNADO, CEADO (Central European Anti-Doping

Organization), the Croatian Olympic Committee, the Croatian Paralympic Committee, the Croatian Olympic Committee's Health Commission, the University of Zagreb School of Medicine, the University of Zagreb Faculty of Kinesiology, the University of Zagreb Faculty of Political Sciences, the Croatian Olympic Academy, the Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices of Croatia, the Croatian School Sports Federation, national sport federations and sports clubs in Croatia, national anti-doping organizations from other countries, UEFA, World Athletics (former IAAF), and other international sport federations.

In 2022, 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 legal successor of 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.

In 2022, the Division for Anti-Doping operated in accordance with CIPH Anti-Doping Rules. Additional Rules and Rules of Procedure essential for the operations of Division for Anti-Doping, were: Rules on Doping Control, Rules on Accreditation and Re-accreditation of Doping Control Officers, Rules on Therapeutic Use Exemptions, Hearing panel and Appeal panel Rules of Procedure, and Science Council Rules of Procedure. The Mandate Councils, established for the implementation of anti-doping activities were: TUE Committees, the Hearing Panel and the Appeal Panel.

Harmonization of anti-doping documents with new anti-doping regulations

In late 2020, for harmonization with the new anti-doping regulations, new anti-doping documents were approved and entered into force on January 1st, 2021: Anti-Doping Rules, Rules on Therapeutic Use Exemptions, and Hearing Panel Rules of Procedure.

The Anti-Doping Rules were amended in June 2022, as approved by the CIPH Governing Council. The amendments involved the provisions regulating the activities of the Appeal Panel, as an Appeal Panel has been established by the Center for Sports Rights of the Croatian Olympic Committee, and its activities are regulated by COC internal rules. In this process, the Division for Anti-Doping cooperated closely with the COC in establishing an operationally and institutionally independent appeal body.

Cooperation with the COC has also continued in the realization of recommendations in line with the framework set out by the Council of Europe Monitoring group.

In 2022, activities have been carried out to address the corrective measures set out after WADA's review conducted in November 2021 and the subsequent report. All the required corrective measures were completed by September 23rd 2022. Thus, full compliance with the WADA code has been achieved and the review process has been officially completed.

Cooperation and coordination with the Drug Enforcement Department of the National Police Office for Suppression of Corruption and Organised Crime, and with the Ministry of the Interior was intensified in 2022, especially regarding reaching the Agreement on Cooperation and Information Exchange.

In 2022, the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping participated in consultations of the working group for amending the List of drugs, psychotropic substances and plants from which drugs can be obtained, and substances that can be used to produce drugs, as well as the List of Substances Prohibited in Sport, with the purpose of implementing Article 191.a of the Criminal Act (OG 125/11, 144/12, 56/15, 61/15, 101/17, 118/18, 126/19, 84/21). After completion of the consultations, the lists are expected to enter into force through legislative procedures in early 2023.

In 2022, the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping cooperated with the Ministry of Tourism and Sport - Sport Administration, in the realization of recommendations stated in the framework issued by the Council of Europe commission for compliance monitoring.

Likewise, measures indicated in the report issued by the Council of Europe Monitoring Group of the Anti-doping Convention. In this sense, consultations were held regarding the creation of the Sports Act (OG 141/22), and the Act amending the Health Care Act which has been released into legislative procedure in 2022.

In 2022, based on its Anti-Doping Rules, CIPH Division for Anti-Doping has implemented the WADA 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, the 2022 Prohibited List, the International Standard on Code Compliance, the International Standard for Education, and the International Standard for Results Management.

Throughout 2022, meetings organized by CEADO (Central European Anti-Doping Organization) were held *online* and *onsite*. CEADO members are the anti-doping organizations of Austria (NADA Austria), Hungary (HUNADO), Poland (POLADA), Czech Republic (CADC), Slovakia (SADA), Slovenia (SLOADO), Serbia (ADAS), and Croatia (CIPH).

In cooperation with the Directorate for Sport at the Ministry of Tourism and Sport, consultations were held on inquiries from various bodies regarding sport and anti-doping. Consultations were also held regarding the report of the working group for monitoring compliance with the Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention in order to fulfil the obligations towards the Convention and the WADA Code.

Based on the Council of Europe and WADA compliance monitoring group report on the monitoring carried out in 2019, activities for harmonization with the Convention were continued. The activities associated with the coordination of anti-doping policies in line with the framework set out by the Council of Europe Compliance Monitoring Group were scheduled in accordance with the specific goal 6.1.6 of the 2019-2026 National Program for Sport. Consequently, the initiative for establishing a coordinating body for anti-doping will continue.

Establishing a working group for anti-doping policy coordination has been proposed, in order to effectively share information and plan the anti-doping strategy at the level of government and non-governmental bodies involved in sport development and/or doping issues in the Republic of Croatia.

National platform for compliance

Pursuant to the UNESCO International Convention Against Doping in Sport and its documents, the need for establishing a national platform for compliance has re-emerged for efficient implementation of measures for maintaining/achieving compliance by a Convention state party.

Sport Act

The Sport Act (OG 141/2022), with participation of the Division for Anti-Doping in the public discourse, was adopted on November 29th 2022. Its entering into force on January 1st 2023 has additionally strengthened the role of CIPH Division for Anti-Doping, especially with the provisions regarding establishing authority over persons in the sport system.

Health Care Act

In 2022, CIPH Division for Anti-Doping carried out consultations with the Ministry of Health regarding the adoption of the Act amending the Health Care Act, especially in the part pertaining to the implementation of the Anti-Doping Rules, the World Anti-Doping Code, and the international conventions in the field of anti-doping.

2. DOPING CONTROLS, INVESTIGATIONS AND RESULTS MANAGEMENT

In line with international trends in the fight against doping, when planning and implementing testing, we are increasingly relying on data collected from various sources pertaining to the potential use of prohibited substances and means.

In 2022, testing was conducted in accordance with the Test Distribution Plan and WADA's Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis.

Testing

The 2022 Test Distribution Plan was created in accordance with Article 4.2 of the WADA International Standard for Testing and Investigations; risk factors were estimated for each sport, taking into account the history of doping and the popularity of individual sports in the Republic of Croatia. Based on the experience from previous years, increased number of testing was planned for sports with the highest estimated likelihood of doping. WADA's Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis (TDSSA2022) has been consistently applied in the Test Distribution Plan. For 2022, we had planned an increased number of testing compared to 2021, which is also our intention for each subsequent year.

As part of the National Program, a total of 810 samples were collected at doping control in 2022 (without ABP). In accordance with international standards, 796 of all collected samples were analysed, 367 of which In-Competition and 429 Out-of-Competition. One hundred and five blood analyses were conducted, with 55 samples collected for growth hormone detection, and 50 samples collected as part of the athlete biological passport program. Seven hundred and forty one (741) urine (as biological material) analyses were conducted.

One hundred and seventy (170) tests were conducted for exogenous administration of erythropoiesis-stimulating agents, 165 tests for exogenous administration of growth hormone release factors, and 55 tests for exogenous administration of growth hormone.

Doping controls in the national program

SPORTS/DISCIPLINES	IN-COMPETITION	OUT-OF-COMPETITION	TOTAL	ESA	GH	GHRF	ABP
Alpine skiing	0	3	3	1	0	2	0
Athletics	23	37	60	25	6	9	14
Deaf athletics	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Para athletics	19	7	26	9	0	10	0
Cycling	4	9	13	9	0	4	3
Bocce ball	4	3	7	0	0	0	0
Bodybuilding	14	0	14	2	0	12	0
Boxing	12	17	29	5	3	10	0
Long-distance swimming	4	0	4	2	0	2	0
Weightlifting	8	6	14	2	1	8	0
Futsal	8	15	23	1	0	7	0
Gymnastics	6	17	23	2	2	2	0
Ice hockey	6	0	6	1	0	2	0
Wrestling	9	21	30	8	2	4	6
Sailing	0	5	5	1	0	2	0
Judo	6	16	22	2	2	2	0
Deaf judo	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Kayak canoe	0	12	12	6	3	3	3
Karate	6	14	20	3	2	3	0
Kickboxing	20	6	26	7	0	11	0
Ice skating	3	1	4	1	0	0	0
Basketball	22	24	46	5	3	7	9
Football	36	34	70	7	7	7	0
Armwrestling	6	0	6	1	0	2	0
Volleyball	20	20	40	2	0	4	0
Swimming	25	20	45	13	4	4	0
Deaf swimming	0	2	2	1	0	1	0
Para swimming	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
Powerlifting	21	10	31	3	6	13	0
Rugby	0	6	6	1	0	3	0
Underwater diving	11	3	14	5	0	4	3
Handball	24	31	55	6	6	6	0
Deaf handball	0	18	18	3	0	4	0
Savate	6	0	6	1	0	2	0
Cross-country skiing	0	3	3	2	0	1	0
Snowboarding	0	1	1	1	0	0	0

SPORTS/DISCIPLINES	IN-COMPETITION	OUT-OF-COMPETITION	TOTAL	ESA	GH	GHRF	ABP
Table tennis	6	5	11	1	1	1	0
Archery	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
Shooting	0	6	6	0	0	0	0
Deaf shooting	0	4	4	0	0	0	0
Taekwondo	6	10	16	2	2	2	0
Deaf taekwondo	0	2	2	1	0	1	0
Tennis	0	8	8	1	0	1	0
Triathlon	6	0	6	4	0	2	0
Water polo	17	6	23	2	2	2	0
Rowing	9	21	30	21	3	3	21
TOTAL	367	429	796	170	55	165	50
ABP		50	50				

As part of international cooperation, a total of 156 samples were collected, 126 of which In-Competition and 30 Out-of-Competition. One hundred and forty-eight (148) urine (as biological material), and 8 blood analyses were carried out.

SPORT	IN-COMPETITION	OUT-OF-COMPETITION	TOTAL	BLOOD	URINE
Athletics	21	0	21	0	21
Para athletics	0	3	3	0	3
Cycling	8	3	11	6	5
Bocce ball	4	2	6	0	6
Boxing	6	0	6	0	6
Gymnastics	7	3	10	1	9
Judo	26	0	26	0	26
Kickboxing	3	1	4	0	4
Fencing	5	0	5	0	5
Volleyball	4	0	4	0	4
Rafting	4	0	4	0	4
Fishing	0	3	3	0	3
Underwater diving	0	2	2	0	2
Crossbow	2	0	2	0	2
Diving	0	5	5	0	5
Shooting	34	0	34	0	34
Water polo	2	0	2	0	2
Rowing	0	8	8	1	7
TOTAL	126	30	156	8	148

The CIPH Division for Anti-Doping has continued implementing the ABP Steroidal Module, a highly reliable tool for detecting the lowest concentrations of exogenously administered substances from the S1 Class (anabolic steroids), which are non-specified substances.

In 2022, 16 athletes were included in the ABP Haematological Module program.

Registered Testing Pool

The Registered Testing Pool included 60 athletes, and 27 athletes were included in the Testing Pool. Athletes were provided with assistance in delivering their whereabouts information, education, and support via telephone. WADA's Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis was applied to the Registered Testing Pool in accordance with the Test Distribution Plan.

Doping Control Officers

Supervision of the work of the Doping Control Officers is carried out throughout the year, with monitoring of fieldwork and of the doping control forms.

Program testing support

Monitoring of sport specific analyses was enabled via the APLIKATA program. The system for monitoring doping control officers has been upgraded via the DCR online application for the administration of doping control officers (APLIKATA). The possibility of registry and monitoring of doping control officers' outcomes was added to the application, regardless of the samples obtained.

Sample management

In order to strengthen the chain of custody and maintain the highest possible quality of samples for analysis, in addition to the existing measures of samples storage and warning system, sample transport using portable cool boxes with data logger is secured in accordance with the International Standard for Testing and Investigations.

Investigations and data collection

The Unit for Collection, Evaluation and Use 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 contains a “Speak Up” portal, where all interested parties can anonymously report anti-doping rule violations. Hopefully, athletes, sport officials and sport fans in Croatia will use this option to report doping and thus contribute to the fight for clean sport.

The Unit for Collection, Evaluation and Use of Data related to anti-doping rule violations continuously monitors athletes and athlete support personnel for which information exist on possible anti-doping rule violations. Conclusions are made based on the collected information, with subsequent proceedings and measures which include testing of athletes In-Competition and Out-of-Competition, additional monitoring of athletes and athlete support personnel, and inclusion in the CIPH Registered Testing Pool.

Whereabouts failures

Proceedings for ten missed tests and three failures to submit whereabouts information were concluded in 2022. This amounts to a total of thirteen whereabouts failures.

Results management

Hearing panel

As part of results management, seven sessions of the CIPH Hearing Panel were held.

In 2022, eight athletes tested positive for prohibited substances.

In 2022, one athlete interrupted the doping control procedure without permission.

Disciplinary proceedings before the CIPH Hearing Panel were initiated for eight athletes in 2022 (four for potential anti-doping rule violations which occurred in 2021). The cases of five athletes are currently under review.

In 2022, the CIPH Hearing Panel held four sessions due to potential anti-doping rule violations which occurred in 2021 (case files SP 01/22, SP 02/22, and SP 03/22).

In 2022, the CIPH Hearing Panel held seven (7) sessions due to violations of the CIPH Anti-Doping Rules:

Table: Hearing Panel Sessions

Session date	Sport	Offender	Type and category of substance from the List	Disciplinary measure	Violated Article of the Rules	Note
12/04/2022 SP 02/22	Bodybuilding	Athlete		4 years of ineligibility	2.3	Started in 2021
03/05/2022 SP 01/22	Bodybuilding	Athlete		4 years of ineligibility	2.3	Started in 2021
14/06/2022 SP 03/22	Kickboxing	Athlete	Chlorodehydromethyltes tosterone (S1.1)	4 years of ineligibility	2.1	Started in 2021
14/06/2022 SP 04/22	Powerlifting	Athlete	Carboxy-THC (S8)	3 months of ineligibility	2.1	Started in 2021
15/09/2022 SP 05/22	Savate	Athlete	Carboxy-THC (S8)	3 months of ineligibility	2.1	
15/09/2022 SP 06/22	Savate	Athlete	Carboxy-THC (S8)	3 months of ineligibility	2.1	
06/12/2022 SP 07/22	Arm-wrestling	Athlete	Furosemide (S5)	2 years of ineligibility	2.1	

Appeal Panel

There were no CIPH Appeal Panel sessions in 2022.

In 2022, an Appeal Panel has been established by the Center for Sport-Related Rights of the Croatian Olympic Committee, in order to fulfil the WADA Code provision on establishing an appeal panel that is institutionally independent from the organization in charge of anti-doping results management. Consequently, the CIPH Appeal Panel has been dismissed.

3. DOPING PREVENTION

Within its available means and in line with the restrictions due to the Covid pandemic, the Division for Anti-Doping continued with the education program for target groups under its authority that are included in its education pool. Target groups included athletes from the Registered Testing Pool, professional athletes, athletes competing in top leagues, international athletes, athletes from “sports at risk”, Olympic candidates, athletes returning from a sanction, and other participants in top sports (coaches, physicians, physiotherapists, etc.). Educational activities through lectures and the Athlete Outreach Program were severely affected by the pandemic and the imposed epidemiological measures. With online lectures we tried to compensate for the limitations associated with classroom - based lectures. Also, we focused on securing online education tools via the ADEL platform (WADA’s educational program), and on their translation into Croatian language. The result is a vast amount of translated material, which facilitated its use and made it more accessible to users.

The realization of the planned educational activities included various methods of providing information to athletes and the sport community in order to mitigate the limitation caused by the pandemic. The education of athletes and athlete support personnel was carried out as follows:

- Lectures (classroom-based and online)
- Online education via ADEL
- Communication via website and newsletter
- Informing through the NE!DOPINGU magazine, brochures and leaflets
- Direct communication with athletes and athlete support personnel regarding all anti-doping matters via telephone or email.

Lectures

Thirty six (36) lectures were held in 2022 (classroom-based and online); over 900 people participated in this type of education. In addition to athletes, the education included teachers, students, coaches, lawyers, referees, physicians and doping control officers.

Lectures held in 2022 by categories

TYPE OF LECTURE / LEVEL	NUMBER OF LECTURES	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
NATIONAL LEVEL	10	255
INTERNATIONAL LEVEL (REPRESENTATION)	1	35
YOUNG ATHLETES	5	360
Non-specific*	20	279
TOTAL	36	929

*Non-specific – target groups which include coaches, lawyers, referees, physicians, pharmacists, students, and doping control officers

Lectures held in 2022 by sports

SPORT	TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES
Ice hockey	6
Weightlifting	1
Football	9

Cooperation with the Health Commission of the Croatian Olympic Committee

In the reporting period, the established good cooperation with the Health Commission of the Croatian Olympic Committee has continued. Cooperation included the presentation of the 2022 and 2023 Prohibited List, with an overview of all current trends in the field of anti-doping in Croatia and worldwide, and special testing requirements during Covid pandemic.

Cooperation with the Croatian Football Federation

Cooperation with the Croatian Football Federation (CFF) started in early 2022 as part of UEFA's anti-doping educational program HatTrick. Workshops and lectures were held in football clubs with the purpose of familiarizing athletes and athlete support personnel with the anti-doping program, testing procedure, and their rights and obligations. Special group of educators was established for implementing this project.

Athlete Outreach

The Athlete Outreach Program was not implemented in the above period due to the Covid pandemic.

Printed materials

The 2022 Prohibited list was printed in late 2021, with a total of 1,500 copies made in A5 format. It was distributed to users in January 2022. The List has also been published on the Institute's website since December 2021.

In late 2022, the 2023 Prohibited list was prepared and printed, with a total of 1,500 copies made in A5 format.

In 2022, six (6) issues of the NE!DOPINGU magazine were published in 600 copies. The magazine was distributed to national federations, sport clubs, schools, health institutions, athletes, sport officials and members of the committees within the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping.

A new educational material, conceived by the Division for Anti-Doping, was published in late 2022: the Anti-Doping Guide. The Guide is intended for basic education on anti-doping matters and for advancement of the already acquired knowledge in the field. The distribution of leaflets as promotional materials continued in 2022. They were prepared and printed in collaboration with the CIPH Department for Food Supplements and Biologically Active Compounds, in order to raise awareness on the harmful effects of doping and on the possibilities for education regarding dietary supplements.

Online education programs (ADEL platform)

The Division for Anti-Doping has carried out promotional activities for the new online education platform ADEL (Anti-Doping Education and Learning), launched by WADA in early January 2021. ADEL is the new and improved version of WADA's ALPHA educational program. This platform provides anti-doping education for athletes, athlete support personnel, and other interested parties. It offers a wide range of courses and educational programs, and courses are assigned according to the level and role in a sport. After successful completion of educational activities, a certificate valid for two years is issued. In order to make them more accessible to our users, we have invested considerable time in translating the courses and educational programs

into Croatian language. In the period between January 1st and December 31st, 2022, a total of 4826 course applications were submitted, which includes earlier user registrations as the first step before accessing the available online courses. Out of 1.245 registered users in the period between January 1st 2021 and December 31st 2022, there were 785 registered new users on the ADEL platform in 2022. This includes athletes, coaches, medical personnel etc. The platform enables searching according to various criteria for users and educational programs, which will be useful for planning subsequent anti-doping educational activities.

Website

The website of the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping has been actively used for continuously informing and educating all participants in sports on the current anti-doping events, as well as on the anti-doping program during the Covid pandemic. Athletes and all interested parties from the world of sport have access to the List of Registered Medicines in Croatia containing substances from the Prohibited list. The List of Registered Medicines in Croatia is updated every month in cooperation with the Croatian Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices. Furthermore, descriptions of medications prohibited in Croatia are regularly updated via advanced search engine which facilitates finding a specific entry in the database.

On the website, we have also provided support regarding all other segments of anti-doping activities (testing, therapeutic use exemptions, legislation, brochures, etc.). WADA's video with Croatian translation explaining the doping control procedure is also featured on the website.

All relevant documents pertaining to new anti-doping regulations have been published on the website of the CIPH Division for Anti-Doping (The Code, Anti-Doping Rules, and all International Standards: the 2022 Prohibited List (as of October 2022, the 2023 Prohibited List as well), International Standard for Testing and Investigations, International Standard for Laboratories, International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions, International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information, International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories, International Standard for Education, and International Standard for Results Management).

Platforms for the secure transfer of confidential information

Throughout 2022, we continued using the system for therapeutic use exemptions applications and for reporting suspected use of doping, as these are sensitive areas where it is particularly necessary to protect the received information (personal data, medical data, data that are strictly confidential by their very nature and must be protected from unauthorized access).

Newsletter

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

Public relations

The media play an extremely important role in conveying the anti-doping information. Our cooperation with the Croatian media is satisfactory. Questions posed by journalists have been answered in accordance with Code provisions and the provisions of pertinent international standards.

4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In 2022, 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 (T-DO)
- Participation in the activities of the Central European Anti-Doping Organization (CEADO): Memorandum of Understanding has been signed in 2022 between WADA and the CEADO group regarding participation in mutual anti-doping education projects. The plan is to continue cooperation in the advancement of the anti-doping system in EERADO countries, with support and knowledge exchange provided by CEADO member states. The WADA-CEADO-EERADO project will continue as long as support is necessary in this area.
- Supporting the Ministry of Tourism Sport Administration regarding the session of the EU Working Party on Sport
- Participation at the 2022 WADA World Congress in Lausanne - online
- Participation at the iNADO annual meeting and workshop in Lausanne - online
- Participation in the meetings of the Ad Hoc European Committee for the World Anti-Doping Agency (CAHAMA) and Council of Europe Monitoring Group (T-DO) - online
- Cooperation with the International Testing Agency (ITA)
- Cooperation with the laboratory in Seibersdorf – standard cooperation in athlete sample testing; participation in the anti-doping workshop 'Experiencing WADA: Passport, Paperless, Blood Spots and More' (November 27th, 2022)
- Cooperation with anti-doping organizations regarding specific matters (testing, education, data collection)

- Cooperation with the Anti-Doping Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the framework of Cooperation Agreement signed in 2012
- Cooperation with the Slovenian anti-doping organization in the framework of Cooperation Agreement signed in 2017
- Cooperation with the Austrian anti-doping agency in the framework of Cooperation Agreement signed in 2018
- Cooperation with the Moldovan anti-doping agency in the framework of Cooperation Agreement signed in 2012
- Cooperation with other international sport and anti-doping organizations (International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee, international sport federations, national anti-doping organizations)

Participation in workshops and projects

- Participation in the ITA webinar on testing and investigations; coordination of activities regarding the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics (January 27th, 2022)
- Participation in the WADA webinar on WADA Code Compliance Questionnaire (February 17th, 2022)
- Participation in the symposium as part of the educational course “Injuries in Sport” organized by the COC Health Commission (March 18th and 19th, 2022)
- Participation in the WADA webinar on dried blood spot testing on filter paper as an alternative technique for blood sampling (April 7th, 2022)
- Participation in the annual iNADO meeting (online) (June 9th, 2022)
- Participation in the iNADO webinar 'New Possibilities to Use Anti-Doping Capacity „Reassess – Adapt – Improve“ (June 10th, 2022)
- Participation in the annual WADA symposium (online) (June 11th and 12th, 2022)
- Participation at the iNADO Member-only Webinar: AFLD’s Compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code: Challenges and Achievements“ (July 13th, 2022)
- Participation at the iNADO webinar: Transforming into a Sport Integrity Agency: The FINCIS Experience with Mr. Teemu Japissou (September 26th, 2022)

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- Participation at the UEFA webinar regarding the implementation of the 2022/2023 HatTrick program (October 17th, 2022)
 - Participation at the WADA webinar in the field of education: "Global Learning and Development Framework - Training for anti-doping practitioners" (October 26th, 2022)
 - Participation at the WADA webinar for physicians with the purpose of education on therapeutic use exemptions (December 14th, 2022)

5. THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS

During the reporting period, the activities of the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee were carried out in accordance with the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and the Rules on Therapeutic Use Exemption Approvals.

In 2022, thirteen (13) applications for a Therapeutic Use Exemption were submitted:

- The Committee reviewed seven (7) individual TUE applications (of which all seven were eligible under the TUE Guidelines)
- Six (6) TUE applications did not meet the conditions for review at Committee session

All seven (7) considered applications for Therapeutic Use Exemptions have been granted at Committee sessions held in 2022; all of which were proactive (PA) as there were no applications for retroactive (RA) Therapeutic Use Exemptions.

There were no denied Therapeutic Use Exemptions at Committee sessions held in 2022.

Unfounded TUE applications were handled administratively, without holding Committee sessions, i.e. such requests were denied.

Table 1 – TUE applications

Total number of applications	13
Total number of sessions held	7
Pending TUEs	0
Total number of granted TUEs	7
Total number of denied* TUEs	0
Total number of unfounded** applications	6

**-denied TUE: denied use of a prohibited substance and/or method by the TUE Committee*

***unfounded applications: applications for TUE that have been administratively rejected without holding TUE Committee sessions in cases where it was evident that the application does not meet the requirements for approval pursuant to the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*

Table 1a – granted TUEs according to type

Total number of proactive TUEs (PA)	7
Total number of retroactive TUEs (RA)	0

Table 2: Granted TUEs according to active substance, diagnosis and TUE type

Active Substance	Diagnosis	TUE Type
Budesonide	Eosinophilic esophagitis	PA
Somatropin	Developmental delay	PA
Methylphenidate	ADHD	PA
Prednisone	Ulcerative colitis	PA
Somatropin	Growth hormone deficiency	PA
Somatropin	Growth hormone deficiency	PA
Modafinil	Narcolepsy and catalepsy, cerebral palsy	PA

Table 3: Unfounded Applications for Therapeutic Use Exemptions

Active Substance	Diagnosis	Reason
Furosemide	Hypertension	International level athlete
Epinephrine, hydrocortisone	Allergic reaction	Prohibited In-Competition only
Triamcinolone acetonide	Cartilage lesion in the right hip	Prohibited In-Competition only
Insulin	Diabetes	Medical documentation older than 12 months
Monoclonal antibodies	Ulcerative colitis	The substance is not listed in the Prohibited List
Triamcinolone acetonide	Cartilage lesions in the right knee	Outside of elimination period

All decisions rendered by the TUE Committee during the reporting period have been uploaded to ADAMS and thus made available to WADA and other authorized organizations. This ensures transparency of the proceedings regarding Therapeutic Use Exemptions and the work of the TUE Committee.

With entry into force of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on May 25th, 2018, a system for secure electronic submission of TUE applications (via secure TUE portal) has been established. It provides utmost protection of applicants' personal and confidential data. In line with updates of security measures for the protection of such data, additional means for submitting

TUE applications are also available, such as registered mail and/or submission in person to the Division for Anti-Doping of the Croatian Institute of Public Health.

In 2022, all documents pertaining to the procedure for receiving and granting TUEs have been updated.

6. MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

The Counselling Centre has continued providing services to athletes in competitive and recreational sports, medical personnel in sports federations and clubs, occupational medicine and sports medicine specialists, physicians of other specialities involved in treating athletes, sports officials and other persons as regards issues pertaining to the use of medications in sports. The services of the Counselling Centre included:

- counselling on substances and methods prohibited in sport (counselling athletes, coaches, physiotherapists, physicians),
- inquiries and counselling of other persons in the field of anti-doping (parents of athletes, physical education teachers, pedagogues, fitness instructors, pharmacists, physicians, and others),
- medical assistance in anti-doping matters, including results management, investigations, monitoring test results via ADAMS, ABP (haematological and steroidal modules), participating in the preparation and implementation of procedures associated with applications for therapeutic use exemptions,
- investigation on the increased level of chorionic gonadotropin in male athletes in order to eliminate the suspected use of said substance for doping,
- following specialist literature and providing opinions or recommendations regarding results management,
- cooperation with accredited laboratories regarding the analysis of substances prohibited in sport,
- experience and knowledge exchange with other organizations in the field of anti-doping,
- updating materials and advancements of the system for TUE applications, including creating guidelines for TUE applications for corticosteroids injections in the period Out-of-Competition,
- participating in the education of fourth year medical students in the field of anti-doping through online courses as part of the “Doping and Anti-Doping” study course, with emphasis on anti-doping legislation and system organization, anti-doping rule violations, sanctions, the Prohibited List and doping control,

- participating in the working group for updating the list of drugs, psychotropic substances and plants from which drugs can be obtained, and substances that can be used to produce drugs, as well as the List of Substances Prohibited in Sport for the implementation of Article 191.a. of the Criminal Act (OG 125/11, 144/12, 56/15, 61/15, 101/17, 118/18, 126/19, 84/21).

In 2022, the Counselling Centre for Anti-Doping has carried out many consultations regarding inquiries from sport physicians, athletes and coaches on the use of medications and dietary supplements. Most of the questions were related to the safety of using various dietary supplements. The questions regarding medications included inquiries on antibiotics, inhaled glucocorticoids, thyroid hormone replacement therapy, analgesics, antihistamines, antihypertensives, proton pump inhibitors, insulin, antiepileptics, antidepressants, local decongestants, but also on anabolic steroids, glucocorticoids, non-specific stimuli, alcohol and cannabis.

7. PREMISES AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

In 2022, the necessary supplies (doping control kits, face masks, and gloves), as well as other required equipment have been procured.