

Legal Aspects of Running an ABP case

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Content

1. ITA- Overview

2. ADRV for Use – Article 2.2

3. Results Management: Steps



1. ITA - Overview

Legal form

- An international organization
- ✓ Not-for-profit foundation
- ✓ Under Swiss law

Objectives

- Guarantee independent processes and transparency
- ✓ Foster and centralize expertise
- ✓ Ensure compliance of stakeholders
- Harmonize processes and ensure equal treatment

















Athlete Biological Passport









Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

2. ADRV for Use

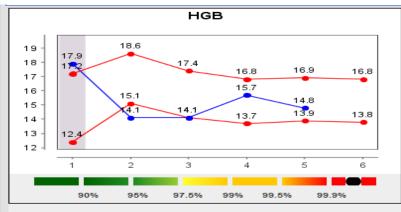


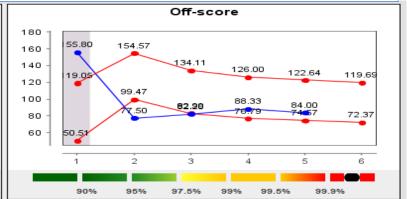
ADRV for Use 2.2 WADC

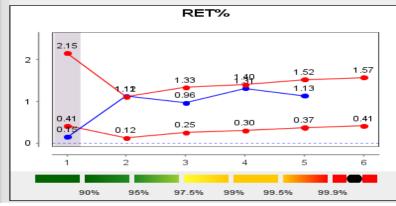
Art. 2.2 Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method

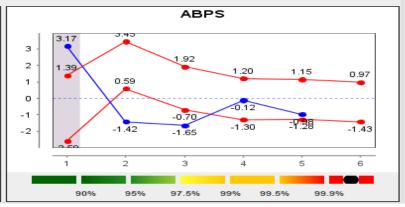
Comment to Article 2.2: It has always been the case that Use or Attempted Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method may be established by any reliable means. As noted in the Comment to Article 3.2, unlike the proof required to establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 2.1, Use or Attempted Use may also be established by other reliable means such as admissions by the Athlete, witness statements, documentary evidence, conclusions drawn from longitudinal profiling, including data collected as part of the Athlete Biological Passport, or other analytical information which does not otherwise satisfy all the requirements to establish "Presence" of a Prohibited Substance under Article 2.1. [...]













A Decade of Consistent CAS Case law

Numerous CAS decisions upholding the ABP as reliable evidence of doping

3. Results Management: Steps



Results Management: Steps

- 1. Review of the APF and ABP Documentation Package
- 2. Notification of the APF to the Athlete (Initial Statement)
- 3. Athlete's Explanations
- 4. Experts' Review
- 5. Assertion (or not) of the ADRV (Final Statement)
- 6. Sanction & Consequences requested
- 7. Acceptance of Consequences Proposal
- 8. Disciplinary Proceedings
- 9. Appeal
- 10. Reset



1. Adverse Passport Finding & Initial Statement

Consensus from Expert Panel that, considering the information within the Passport at this stage,:

"it is likely that a Prohibited Substance and/or Method has been used, and [highly] unlikely that it is the result of any other cause"

ITA KEEPING SPORT REAL

1. Review of the APF, Initial Statement and ABP Documentation Package

- Understand content and extent
 - Main abnormalities
 - Full doc pack vs certificates
 - Additional ABP samples / Urine Sample?
 - Samples included vs excluded
 - Whereabouts filings
 - Intelligence gathering: entourage, suspicious behavior,etc.



2. Notification of the APF (confidential)

- Athlete is notified that ADO "is considering the assertion of an ADRV"
 - Potential "Use of Prohibited Substance and/or Methods" (art. 2.2 WADC)
 - ABP Documentation provided
 - Reasonable delay is granted to provide explanation
 - Opportunity to accept provisional suspension (and admit)
 - WADA and NADO with whom there is a sharing agreement are notified



3. Athlete's Explanation

- Different Approaches:
 - 1. Medical explanation (anaemia, accident, malaria, pregnancy, etc)
 - 2. Physiological explanation (high altitude native, training conditions, etc.)
 - 3. Preanalytical and analytical requirements /procedural defects allegations
 - Challenge Inclusion/Exclusion of Samples (ADAMS vs Experts' assessment)
 - Typos, apparent inconsistencies between documentation related to reliability of the analysis, storage, T°, etc.
 - Sample collection deviation
 - 4. Delaying tactics (Asking for the B-sample analysis and every documentation packages)



Burdens and Standards of Proof

- Presumption in favor of laboratories (3.2.2 & 3.2.3 WADC)
- Therefore => samples validity is presumed.
- Athlete has the burden of proof:
 - to establish the departure; and
 - 2. that such departure could reasonably have caused the ADRV
- Athlete: balance of probabilities (3.1 WADC in fine)
- ADO: comfortable satisfaction



4. Experts' Review of the explanation

➤ Athlete's case file is sent back to APMU/Experts



5. Assertion of the ADRV: Final Statement

- Final Statement whereby Experts unanimously confirm that it is "[highly] likely that the Athlete used a prohibited substance or a prohibited method and that it is [highly] unlikely to find that the passport abnormal assuming any other cause."
 - Athlete is notified of the assertion of the ADRV (art. 2.2)
 - Provisional Suspension (7.9.1 WADC)
 - Opportunity to provide substantial assistance and admit
 - Notification of WADA, NADO, National Federation, Public



5. Assertion of the ADRV (or not) (confidential)

- Final Statement whereby Experts cannot reach an unanimous opinion or agree with the Athlete's alternative explanation
 - Athlete is informed that case will not proceed
 - WADA and NADO informed

 Follow up on ABP to build up case against Athlete (further target testing or investigation)



6. Sanction & Consequences requested

4-year ban (art. 10.2.1.1 WADC)

Disqualification (art.10.8 WADC)

• Fine, fees



6. Disqualification Art. 10.8 WADC

In addition to the automatic Disqualification of the results in the Competition which produced the positive Sample under Article 9, all other competitive results of the Athlete obtained from the date a positive Sample was collected (whether incompetition or out-of-competition), or other anti-doping rule violation occurred, through the commencement of any provisional suspension or ineligibility period, shall, unless fairness requires otherwise, be disqualified with all of the resulting consequences including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes

- "Start Date" of the ADRV: 1st sample of the profile vs. 1st abnormality
- Throughout or partly: doping scheme only and/or between the gaps?
- Fairness & Proportionality



7. Acceptance of Consequences (art. 8.3 WADC)

 Terms for sanction & consequences proposed to Athlete

 Possibility to reduce ban based on prompt admission (art. 10.6.3 WADC)

Reduce time-treatment and costs



8. Disciplinary Proceedings

- ADO initiates disciplinary proceedings before:
 - First instance hearing panel;
 - Directly to CAS (art. 8.5 WADC)

Athlete has the opportunity to file a "new" defense



8. ADO's Prosecution

- ✓ Explaining the ABP
 - CAS caselaw
 - Expert Panel testimony and additional expertise
- ✓ Rebutting Alternative Scenarios
 - Battle of the Experts on specific issue (pathology)
 - Independent opinion on samples validity
- ✓ Adducing evidence to establish a "Doping Scenario" +
 - Competition schedule / targeted events
 - Intelligence
 - Whereabouts failures
 - Diluted Samples
 - Entourage, past ADRVs
 - Etc.



9. Appeal to CAS

Case is heard de novo



10. ADRV is confirmed

ABP profile is to be "re-setted"

Thank you!

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