Project Lim (Malaysia)

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Cultivating clean sport environment with athlete support personnel (ASP): Study on knowledge, perception and practice of ASP and educational programme

This study aims to identify and address the gap of knowledge in the ASP's knowledge, perception and practice related to doping among budding athletes in South East Asia countries. With that, respective NADOs would be able to design a more tailored educational and awareness programme for the ASP. Besides, respective authorities could revise and ensure the appropriateness of the current training modules for ASP. Following that, it is hope that ASP would be equipped with updated knowledge on doping and zero tolerance on doping.

Despite the responsibilities of ASP against doping was well defined by WADA, our understanding on their knowledge, perception and experience is scarce. This study would be useful to identify how effective is the current educational programme provided by the NADOs to the ASP especially among budding professional athletes. This could also address how the experience and practice of ASP would interact with their roles in achieving clean sports. It is hoped that by engaging ASP among young athletes to have a strong stance against doping, the effectiveness of the nation's effort in eliminating doping in sport will be enhanced.

This study consists of two phases in which the first phase involves administration of questionnaires to the ASP from sports schools from Malaysia, Cambodia, Vietnam, Singapore, Myanmar, Laos, Indonesia and Philippines through the respective national anti-doping agency. After the collection of data, the second phase comprises online webinars conducted by the researcher teams and the local anti-doping officers with the respondents who answered the questionnaire in the first phase. The online webinar would consist of exposure of anti-doping modules and educational packages adapted from reference materials produced by WADA and regional anti-doping organizations (RADOs). The production and finalization of the content of the webinar would be discussed among the researchers teams which consist of academicians, clinical pharmacists and physician who has underwent specialized training on sports medicine. Consultation with representatives from the SEARADO and respective representatives from NADO would be sought as well to ensure the modules and educational materials are suitable for the targeted audience. The webinar would last for 6 hours per day, and a maximum of 2 days webinar would be conducted per session. Upon the completion of the online webinar, participants would be provided the similar questionnaire to assess their knowledge and perception.