Introduction to Clenbuterol Positives in Doping Tests

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Legal Affairs and Investigation Department
WANG Xinzhai (Newhouse)
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Beijing
Basic situation of Clenbuterol positives

Development trends of case proceeding
Basic situation of Clenbuterol positives
Changes in numbers

Distributions of Clenbuterol positives

Total: 35  Average: 2.5/year

2013.01.01
MRPL 2ng/mL → 0.2ng/mL

Total: 162  Average: 32/year
Comparisons of concentrations

Concentration distributions of Clenbuterol

- <1ng/mL: 94%, 132
- 1-2ng/mL: 5%, 7
- >2ng/mL: 1%, 2

Only the substance of Clenbuterol is detected in the urine samples.

Both Clenbuterol and other substances are detected in urine samples.

2016
Bodybuilding
Clenbuterol positive
136 ng/mL
Development trends of case proceeding
Changes before and after 2011

Before

✓ Unable to explain the causes of positive cases
✓ Adhered to the principle of strict liability
✓ The athletes were punished 2-4 years of Ineligibility.

2011

Ovtcharov tested positive for Clenbuterol

Clenbuterol positive cases were detected in held in Mexico the U17 World Youth Soccer Championship

After

✓ "Clenbuterol" being illegally added in meat products was exposed
Handling cases on the individual basis

Handling process of Clenbuterol positives from 2012 to 2016

1. Providing notice of a positive case
2. Investigation and evidence collection
3. Holding a hearing
4. Determining whether the positive case is caused by meat contamination
5. Making a decision
Problems and challenges

- Difficult to investigate and collect evidence
- Unfair to the athletes
- Consume too many recourses
- Heavy pressure on the anti-doping work
Recent trends in the proceeding of Clenbuterol cases

More understanding of the Clenbuterol issue

Simplified the handling process of Clenbuterol positives of low concentrations

Athletes have no fault and should not be penalized if they consume meat products contaminated by Clenbuterol.
CHINADA’s current proceeding flow

Above 2ng/mL
- Notification of a positive case
- Investigations
- Hearings
- Proceedings

1. Explaining the causes within a time limit
2. Auditing evidence
3. Assessing the possibility of Clenbuterol contamination
4. Deciding whether to close the case at the level of results management

Below 2ng/mL
Our Challenges

The laboratories have consumed too much resources to confirm that a large majority of Clenbuterol positives are caused by food contamination.

The athletes are required to submit investigation findings and relevant evidence, which have cost too much resources as well.

The investigations and handlings of dozens of Clenbuterol positives each year has cost us a lot of resources.
Moving forward

✓ Strengthen the scientific research on Clenbuterol, distinguish positive cases caused by intentional use from food contamination at technological level;

✓ If it’s difficult to do so right now, is it possible for WADA to set a Decision limit (or MRPL?) of 2ng/mL for Clenbuterol positive cases happened in China and other specific countries, similar as higenamine?
THE END
THANK YOU