



2021 PRIMARY CARE HAWAII CONFERENCE

Caring for the Active and Athletic Patient

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The Preparticipation Examination (PPE): The Primary Care Provider's Survival Guide 2021



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Disclosure Information

The information presented in this activity represents the opinions of the author and not those of the Department of Defense or the Uniformed Services University

Francis G. O'Connor, MD, MPH, has no financial interests or relationships to disclose.



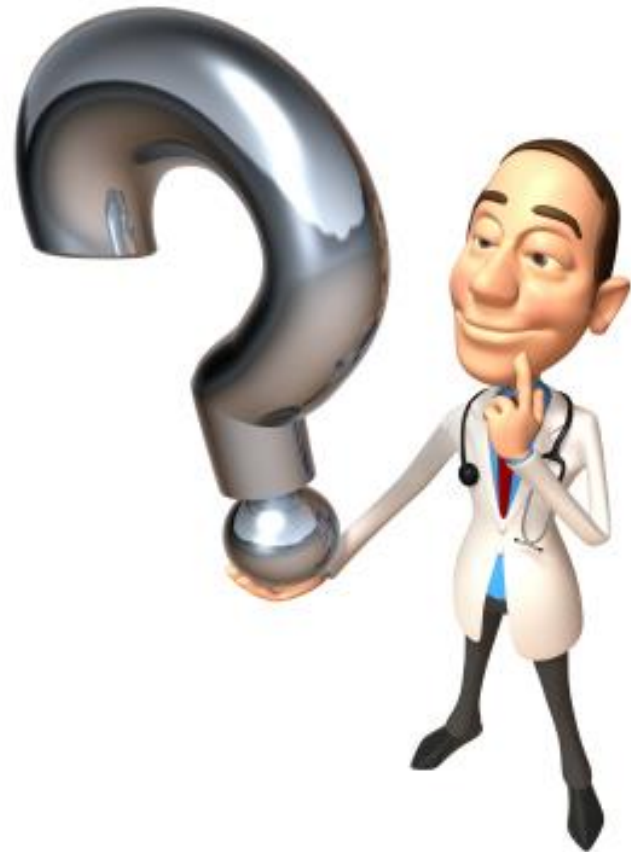
John is a Rising High School Senior

- John is a 17/0 male being seen for his PPE.
- He is a multiple sport athlete and intends to play football, basketball and track.
- He has potential for a college scholarship as a wide receiver.
- **Practice starts tomorrow.**



You have a Resident helping with Preparticipation Examinations

- **Jason is a third year Resident in Family Medicine helping you with PPEs.**
- **Jason has lots of questions!**



Objectives

- **Identify Standard of Care Resources** for performing preparticipation examination (PPE)
- **Discuss the New Features of PPE Monograph 5**
- **Discuss the Purpose, Timing, Frequency and Setting** of the PPE
- **Identify and Discuss** history questions and physical examination findings on the PPE **Not to Miss!**
- **Discuss** the role of **Special Tests**
- **Discuss** common **Clearance Issues**



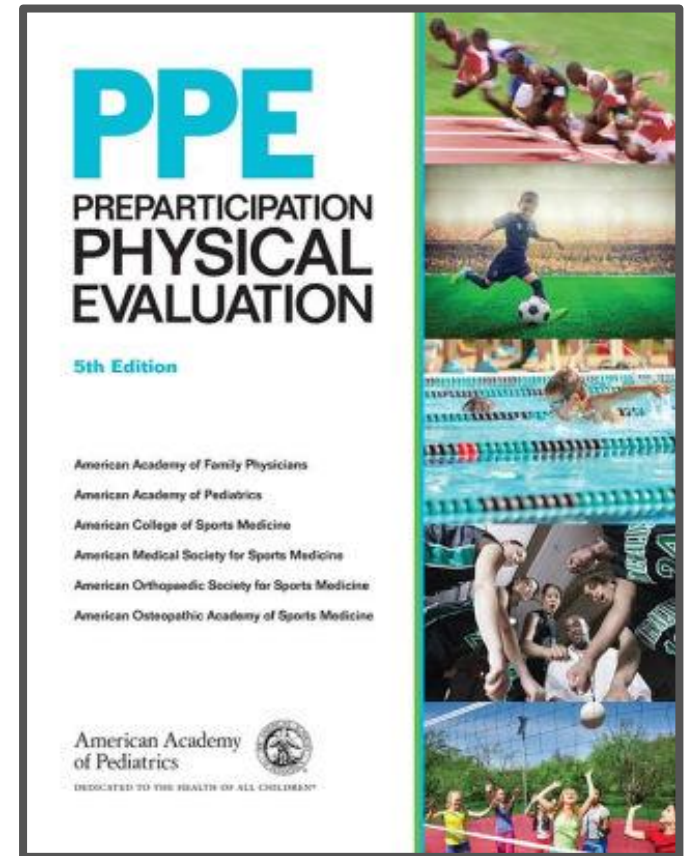
What should I read?

- **Jason inquires as to what references or resources might be available to assist with PPEs in the future?**



Preparticipation Evaluation Physical Evaluation Fifth Edition

- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American College of Sports Medicine
- American Medical Society for Sports Medicine
- American Orthopedic Society of Sports Medicine
- American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine





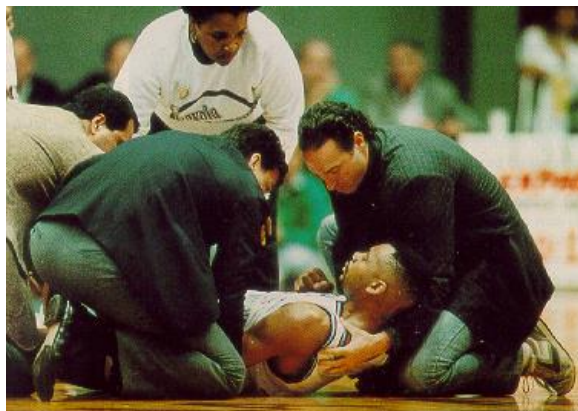
46th Bethesda Conference: Recommendations for Determining Eligibility for Competition in Athletes with Cardiovascular Abnormalities



Maron BJ, Zipes DP, Kovacs RJ; American Heart Association Electrocardiography and Arrhythmias Committee of Council on Clinical Cardiology, Council on Cardiovascular Disease in Young, Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing, Council on Functional Genomics and Translational Biology, and American College of Cardiology. ELIGIBILITY AND DISQUALIFICATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMPETITIVE ATHLETES WITH CARDIOVASCULAR ABNORMALITIES: Preamble, Principles, and General Considerations: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology. *Circulation*. 2015 Dec 1;132(22):e256-61.

46th Bethesda Conference Guidelines

- Recommendations for Determining Eligibility for Competition in Athletes with Cardiovascular Abnormalities 2015**
 - 15 Distinct Task Force Reports



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Hypertension

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE Guidance for the Clinician in Rendering Pediatric Care

American Academy
of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

Clinical Practice Guideline for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents

Joseph T. Flynn, MD, MS, FAAP; David C. Kaelber, MD, PhD, MPH, FAAP, FACF; FACM; Carissa M. Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA; Douglas Blowe, MD; Aaron E. Carroll, MD, MS, FAAP; Stephen R. Daniels, MD, PhD, FAAP; Sarah D. de Ferranti, MD, MPH, FAAP; Janis M. Dionne, MD, FRCPC; Bonita Falkner, MD; Susan K. Flinn, MA; Samuel S. Gidding, MD; Collette Goodwin, Michael G. Lau, MD, MS, MHS, FAAP; Makia E. Powers, MD, MPH, FAAP; Cristina Riza, MD, MPH, FAAP; Joshua Saravali, MD, MPH, FAAP; Madeline Simsek, MD, MS, FAAP; Vidya K. Tranker, MD, FAAP; Eileen M. Urbina, MD, MS, FAAP; SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCREENING AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IN CHILDREN

These pediatric hypertension guidelines are an update to the 2004 "Fourth Report on the Diagnosis, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents." Significant changes in these guidelines include (1) the replacement of the term "prehypertension" with the term "elevated blood pressure," (2) new normative pediatric blood pressure (BP) tables based on normal-weight children, (3) a simplified screening table for identifying BPs needing further evaluation, (4) a simplified BP classification in adolescents ≥ 15 years of age that aligns with the forthcoming American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology adult BP guidelines, (5) a more limited recommendation to perform screening BP measurements only at preventive care visits, (6) streamlined recommendations on the initial evaluation and management of abnormal BPs, (7) an expanded role for ambulatory BP monitoring in the diagnosis and management of pediatric hypertension, and (8) revised recommendations on when to perform echocardiography in the evaluation of newly diagnosed hypertensive pediatric patients (generally only before medication initiation), along with a revised definition of left ventricular hypertrophy. These guidelines include 30 Key Action Statements and 27 additional recommendations derived from a comprehensive review of almost 15 000 published articles between January 2004 and July 2016. Each Key Action Statement includes level of evidence, benefit-harm relationship, and strength of recommendation. This clinical practice guideline, endorsed by the American Heart Association, is intended to foster a patient- and family-centered approach to care, reduce unnecessary and costly medical interventions, improve patient diagnoses and outcomes, support implementation, and provide direction for future research.

abstract

FREE

Dr Robert D. Hickman Endowed Chair in Pediatric Nephrology, Division of Nephrology, Department of Pediatrics, University of Washington and Seattle Children's Hospital, Seattle, Washington; Departments of Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, Center for Global Infectious Research and Education, Case Western Reserve University and MetroHealth System, Cleveland, Ohio; Division of Pediatric Cardiology, School of Medicine, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland; Children's Mercy Hospital, University of Missouri-Kansas City and Children's Mercy Integrated Care Solutions, Kansas City, Missouri; Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana; Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, University of Colorado Denver and Pediatrician in Chief, Children's Hospital Colorado, Aurora, Colorado; Vilverson Preventive Cardiology Clinic, Boston Children's Hospital, Department of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts; Division of Nephrology, Department of Pediatrics, University of British Columbia and British Columbia Children's Hospital, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada; Department of Medicine and Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Consultant, American Academy of Pediatrics, Washington, District of Columbia; Cardiology Division Head, Memorial Cardiac Center, Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington, Delaware; National Pediatric Blood Pressure Awareness Foundation, Prairieville, Louisiana; Departments of Pediatrics and Biomedical Informatics and Medical Education, University of Washington, University of Washington Medicine and Information Technology Services, and Seattle Children's Hospital.

To cite: Flynn JT, Kaelber DC, Baker-Smith CM, et al. Clinical Practice Guidelines for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents. *Pediatrics*. 2017;140(3):e20171904.

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PEDIATRICS Volume 140, number 3, September 2017:e20171904

FROM THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS



Practice Guidelines

Hypertension: New Guidelines from the International Society of Hypertension

Key Points for Practice

- Use an average threshold of 140/90 mm Hg for office diagnosis of hypertension, but 135/85 mm Hg for home and 130/80 mm Hg for 24-hour ambulatory monitoring.
- Initial assessment in a patient who is hypertensive should evaluate for cardiovascular risk and any hypertension-mediated organ damage.
- Consider lifestyle interventions for three to six months before medication in patients with grade 1 hypertension and no comorbidities.
- After starting medication, target blood pressure is less than 140/90 mm Hg within three months, and after three months reduce target to less than 130/80 mm Hg in patients younger than 65 years.

From the AFP Editors

Hypertension is one of the leading causes of death globally each year, accounting for up to 30% of myocardial infarctions. Although the prevalence of hypertension is increasing, many patients are underdiagnosed and undertreated. The International Society of Hypertension (ISH) has published summary guidelines based on major international guidelines published between 2017 and 2020 on the control of hypertension. These summary guidelines include essential recommendations and suggestions for optimal care.

Diagnosis

Because blood pressure (BP) readings vary by measurement technique, diagnostic criteria are specific to the technique (Table 1). In health care settings that include the physician's office, hypertension is diagnosed when BP is 140/90 mm Hg

or greater, ideally using an electronic device and following standard protocols for measurement, including repeat measurements.

The ISH recommends categorizing grade 1 hypertension for BP levels less than 160/100 mm Hg and grade 2 hypertension for any higher BP levels. Hypertension should only be diagnosed from a single BP reading if the measurement is 180/110 mm Hg or higher with evidence of cardiovascular disease requiring immediate treatment. Otherwise, the patient should be reassessed every one to four weeks to confirm BP elevations. Although outpatient office measurements continue to be the most common means of diagnosing hypertension, home and ambulatory readings are more consistent and better reflect hypertension-mediated organ damage risk. Out-of-office readings can differentiate white coat hypertension, with elevated office measurements, and masked hypertension, where measurements are lower in the office.

When BP is measured at home, hypertension is diagnosed if readings are consistently 135/85 mm Hg or greater. With 24-hour ambulatory

TABLE 1

International Society of Hypertension Diagnostic Blood Pressure Thresholds

Location	Threshold (mm Hg)
Office	140/90
Home	135/85
24-hour ambulatory monitoring	130/80
24-hour average	130/80
Daytime average	135/85
Nighttime average	120/70

Adapted from Unger T, Borghi C, Charchar F, et al. 2020 International Society of Hypertension global hypertension practice guidelines. *J Hypertens*. 2020;38:196-204.

Coverage of guidelines from other organizations does not imply endorsement by AFP or the AAFP.

This series is coordinated by Michael J. Arnold, MD, consulting editor.

A collection of Practice Guidelines published in AFP is available at <https://www.aafp.org/afp/practguide>.

This clinical content conforms to AAFP criteria for CME. See CME Quiz on page 719.

Author disclosure: No relevant financial affiliations.

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Flynn JT, Kaelber DC, Baker-Smith CM, et al; Subcommittee on Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children. Clinical Practice Guideline for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents. *Pediatrics*. 2017;140(3):e20171904. *Pediatrics*. 2018 Sep;142(3):e20181739.

Buelt A, Richards A, Jones AL. Hypertension: New Guidelines from the International Society of Hypertension. *Am Fam Physician*. 2021 Jun 15;103(12):763-765.

American Family Physician Article 2021

The Preparticipation Physical Evaluation

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Marie Schaefer, MD, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio

Justin Stumph, DO, Cleveland Clinic Family Medicine Residency Program, Cleveland, Ohio

The preparticipation physical evaluation (PPE) is a common reason for young athletes to see a primary care physician. An annual PPE is required by most state high school athletic associations for participation in school-based sports, although there is limited evidence to support its effectiveness for detecting conditions that predispose athletes to injury or illness. In 2019, the American Academy of Pediatrics, with representatives from the American Academy of Family Physicians and other organizations, published updated PPE recommendations (PPE5). According to the guideline, the general goals of the PPE are determining general physical and psychological health; evaluating for life-threatening or disabling conditions, including risk of sudden cardiac arrest and other conditions that may predispose the athlete to illness or injury; and serving as an entry point into the health care system for those without a medical home or primary care physician. The guideline recommends that the evaluation take place in the physician's office rather than in a group setting. The PPE should include a structured physical examination that focuses on the cardiovascular, musculoskeletal, and neurologic systems. Screening for depression, anxiety disorders, and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder is also recommended. Clinicians should recognize any findings suggestive of the relative energy deficiency in sport syndrome. Additional consideration is required to address the needs and concerns of transgender athletes and athletes with physical and intellectual disabilities. Finally, guidelines have been published regarding return to play for athletes who have had COVID-19. (*Am Fam Physician*. 2021;103(9):539-546. Copyright © 2021 American Academy of Family Physicians.)



Illustration by Jennifer E. Farman



MacDonald J, Schaefer M, Stumph J. The Preparticipation Physical Evaluation. *Am Fam Physician*. 2021 May 1;103(9):539-546.

PPE Next Steps

SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Cardiovascular Preparticipation Evaluation (PPE) for the Primary Care and Sports Medicine Physician, Part I

Editors: Irfan M. Asif, MD; William O. Roberts, MD, MS, FACS; Michael Fredericson, MD, FACS; and Vic Froelicher, MD

Purpose: To provide a rational approach to positive responses to the American Heart Association (AHA) 12-Step Questionnaire and fourth-edition "Preparticipation Physical Evaluation" (PPE) monograph for assessing cardiovascular (CV) risk in athletes. This will assist primary care and sports medicine physicians in determining the need for the following:

1. Follow-up questions to a positive response that will enhance the history and help determine whether a condition that puts an athlete at increased CV risk exists
2. Any basic diagnostic tests to further assess the athlete and that will assist with making an informed decision
3. The need for a consultation or referral to an appropriate specialist

Our goal is to help the primary care and sports medicine physician with the critical decision making regarding positive responses to the AHA 12-Step Questionnaire and criteria for athlete clearance, as follows:

1. Could this be a potentially lethal problem?
2. Does this need additional workup or just an electrocardiogram?
3. Does this require consultation with a specialist (and which specialty)?

For example, to address a positive response to the question regarding "excessive shortness of breath or fatigue with exercise beyond what is expected for your level of fitness," it would be useful for physicians to know which elements in the history, physical, or diagnostic tests point to a potentially lethal CV diagnosis versus an easily treated pulmonary issue like exercise-induced asthma. If a lethal diagnosis can be excluded, the responsible physician may be able to determine that no restriction is warranted and clear the athlete for appropriate activity without a referral to a cardiologist or another specialist.

While there are some differences in the questions from the AHA 12 points and the CV questions in the PPE fourth-edition monograph, the underlying intent is the same and the information provided is easily utilized for both question sets.

History and Application of the AHA 12 Points for Assessing Cardiovascular Risk in Athletes

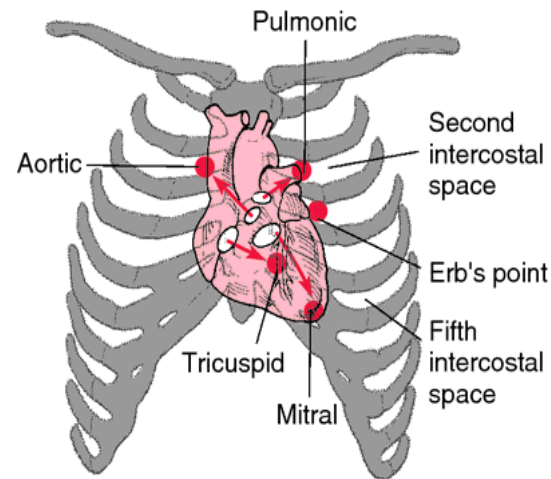
Abhimanyu (Mam) Uberoi, MD, MS and William O. Roberts, MD, MS

The cardiovascular (CV) evaluation, one important part of the preparticipation physical examination (PPE), is the

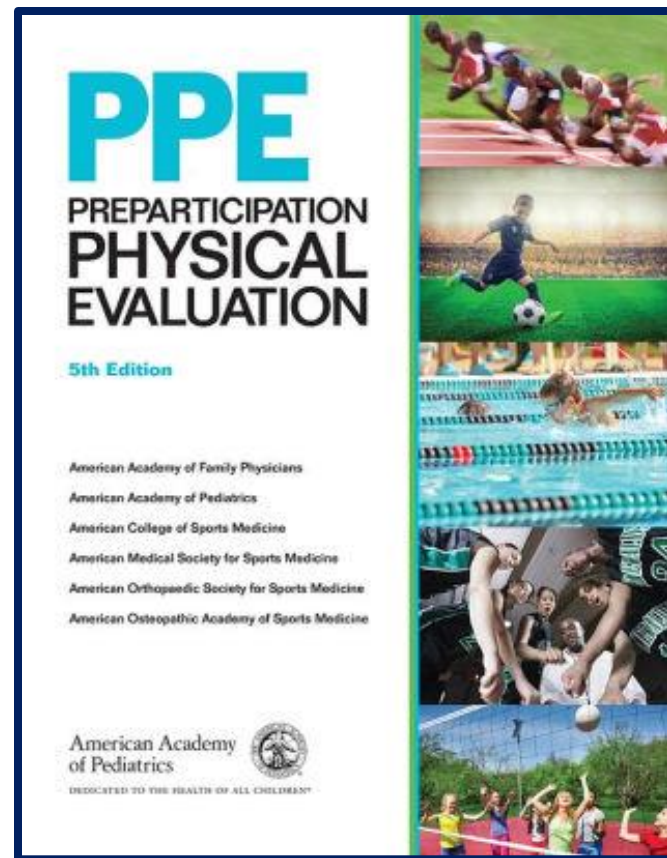
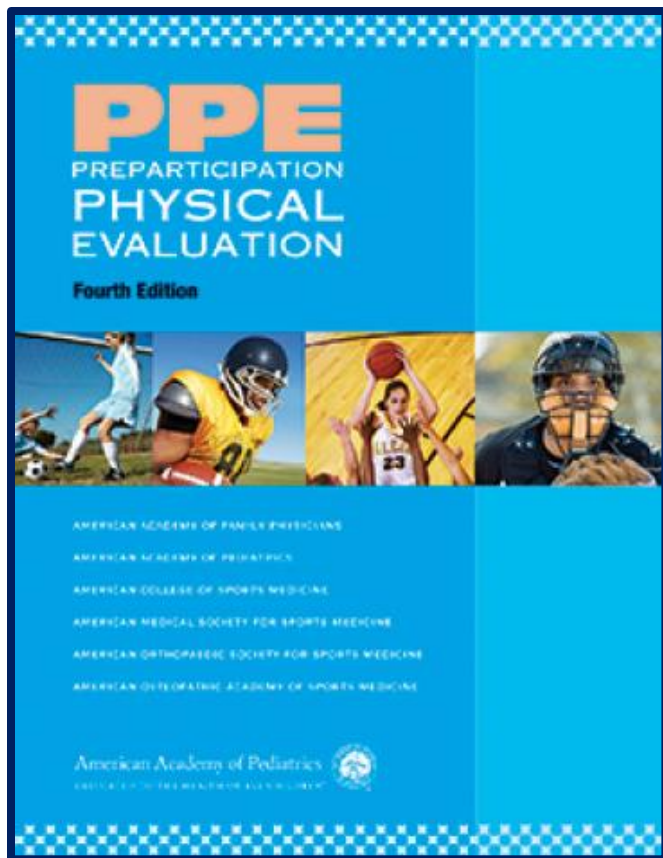
focus of this special communication. Cardiac events during sporting events, albeit rare, can be fatal, and these events are often very public (5,7,10). In the United States, most athlete PPE for ages 6 to 24 years are performed by family physicians and pediatricians (8), some with subspecialty training in sports medicine. Often, the PPE is the first encounter with the health care system for adolescents and serves as the sole opportunity for general screening, risk factor evaluation, and health education. This may be especially true for adolescents in lower income strata. The PPE is intended to reduce the risk of adverse outcomes without unduly restricting athlete participation. A thorough history examination can uncover a large portion of the athlete's risk for injury or illness, and the physical examination unveils other abnormalities. There are very few proven screening methods that assure an athlete's health, but the PPE provides a framework to assess and stratify sport participation risk. The intent of these evaluations is to deliver to health care providers pertinent information to educate athletes and parents and enable them to make an informed participation decision.

The first PPE monograph was published in 1992 by five organizations (American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine, and American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine). The American College of Sports Medicine joined for the third edition in 2005, and the fourth edition was published in 2010 (1). The American Heart Association (AHA) developed CV preparticipation screening recommendations for young athletes in 1996 and updated the statement in 2007 (8). The AHA and the American College of Cardiology have reaffirmed their position regarding the CV PPE and electrocardiography (ECG) screening in healthy 12- to 25-year-old young people with a comprehensive review that endorses the 12-element history and physical examination in the 2014 Scientific Statement (9). This recent document added two elements regarding palpitations and previous evaluations similar to those in the fourth PPE. The question sets from the two examination recommendations are similar, and the fourth PPE monograph uses the same general questions, with some differences in syntax and depth of question content. The question wording of the third PPE monograph was based on input from parent and high school athlete focus group sessions to enhance the "understandability" of the questions for the end users. Of note, the question sets are based on expert opinion and have not been subjected to scientific study.

In the late 1990s, after surveys showed poor compliance with both the use of consensus-based forms and the AHA question set, some high schools and colleges across the country incorporated the elements of the PPE and the AHA

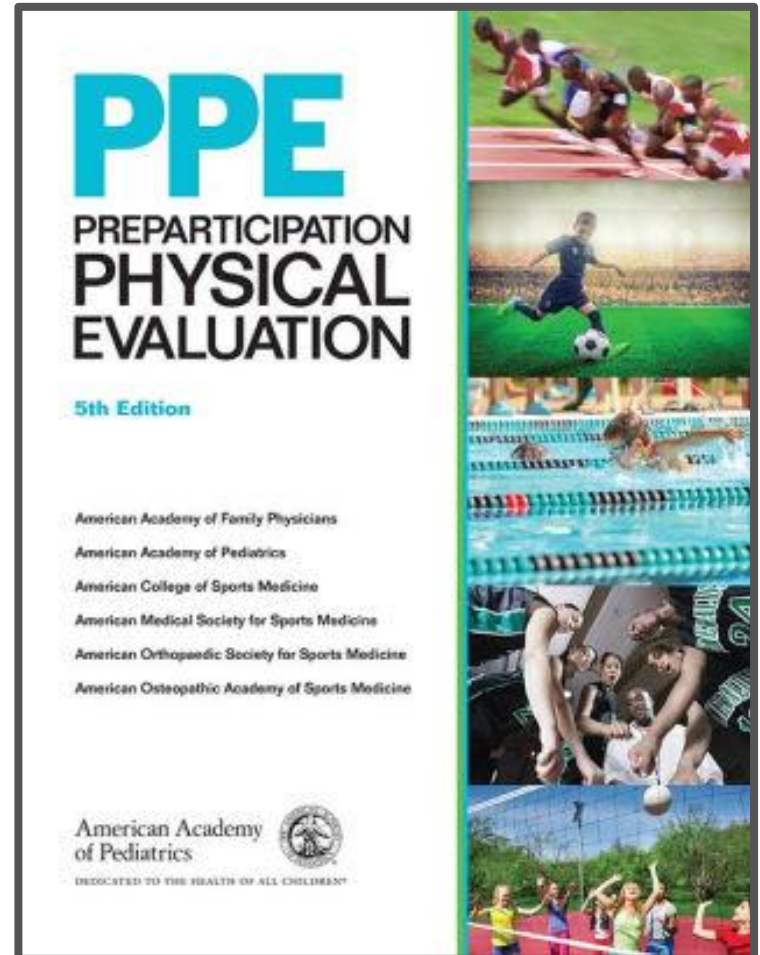


Jason Inquires as to What's New?



Amazon's Comments on the Fifth Edition

- New chapter on **transgender athlete**
- New chapter on the **female athlete**
- New section on **mental health**
- Incorporating PPE into routine health supervision care
- **Updated content** based on the most current practice guidelines, consensus statements, and expert opinions
- Developed to enhance the health and safety of all athletes and establish a standardized approach to PPE
- **English and Spanish versions of the History Form**



The Senior Editors' Thoughts: Key Points of Emphasis



PPE Goals...

- Determine **general physical & PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH**
- Evaluate for conditions that predispose to injury or illness
- Evaluate for **life-threatening** or disabling conditions
- Opportunity for discussion of health & lifestyle issues
- **Entry point into A HEALTH CARE HOME**



PPE5 Emphasis...

- Incorporate the PPE into **routine health supervision care visits** for all children
 - **Start at age 6**
 - **Every 2-3 years**
- Integrating the PPE into the **health care home** may be more easily achieved if the **PPE portion of the examination is addressed every 2 to 3 years**, rather than annually, to allow a different focus each year for evolving child & adolescent risk.



The PPE...

- Provides medical background for **shared medical decision-making**
- Determine **medical eligibility & potential physical activity limitations**
- Help athletes participate “safely”



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■ **PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION**

MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY FORM

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

Medically eligible for all sports without restriction

Medically eligible for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment of _____

Medically eligible for certain sports: Not medically eligible pending further evaluation

Not medically eligible for any sports

Recommendations: _____

Qualifications of Examiners...

- **MD, DO, or advanced practice providers (NP & PA)**
- Essential to have clinical training
 - Knowledge & expertise to conduct the evaluation
 - Address the broad range of problems
 - Determine medical eligibility
- Clinical training for problems encountered during PPE
- Individual state laws vary (NP, PA, DC)
- Seek consultation when appropriate



Frequency of Evaluation...

- **No outcomes-based data to guide the recommendations**
- AHA recommends every 2 years for cardiac evaluation
 - Arbitrary recommendation
 - Assumes cardiac changes detectable at 2-year intervals
- **Little evidence to support any interval recommendations between 1 & 4 years**



The PPE History...

- Not developed as an evidence-based process
- Lack of outcomes data to demonstrate effectiveness
 - Even after several decades of use among athletes
- Widely performed
 - Every state requires PPE for HS athletes
- Implies public health message
 - All children & adolescents should be active

■ PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION

HISTORY FORM

Note: Complete and sign this form (with your parents if younger than 18) before your appointment.

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

Date of examination: _____ Sport(s): _____

Sex assigned at birth (F, M, or intersex): _____ How do you identify your gender? (F, M, or other): _____

Past and current medical conditions: _____

Have you ever had surgery? If yes, list all past surgeries: _____

Medicines and supplements: List all current prescriptions, over-the-counter medicines, and supplements (herbal and nutritional): _____

Do you have any allergies? If yes, please list all your allergies (ie, medicines, pollens, food, stinging insects): _____

Patient Health Questionnaire Version 4 (PHQ-4)

Over the past 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems? (Circle responses.)

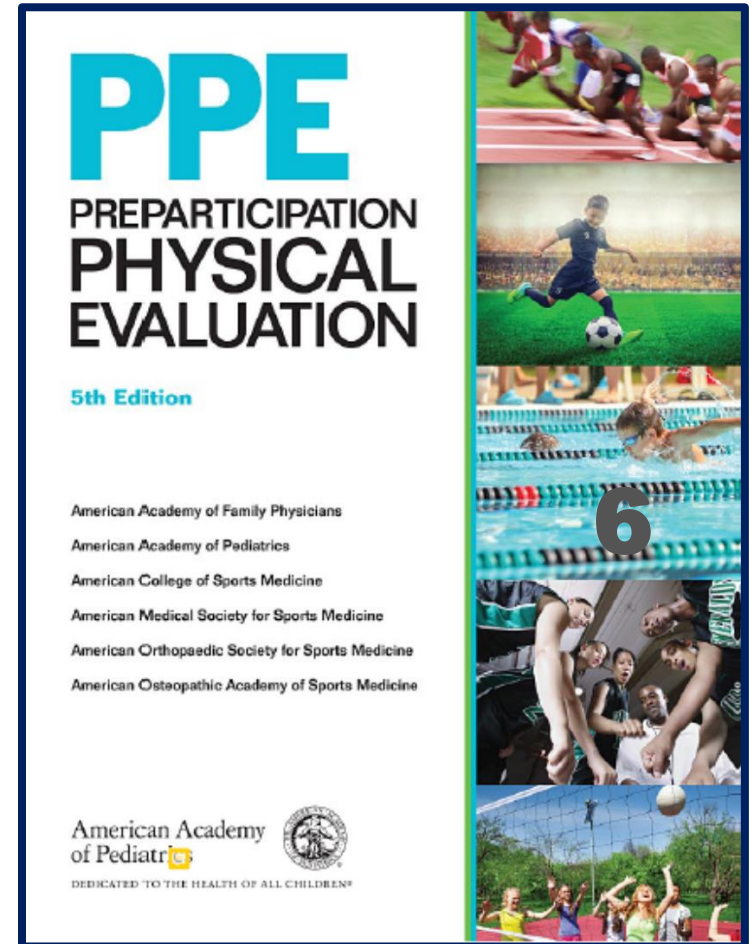
	Not at all	Several days	Over half the days	Nearly every day
Feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge	0	1	2	3
Not being able to stop or control worrying	0	1	2	3
Little interest or pleasure in doing things	0	1	2	3
Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless	0	1	2	3

(If sum of responses ≥ 3 , evaluate.)

GENERAL QUESTIONS	Yes	No	HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU	Yes	No
(Explain "Yes" answers at the end of this form. Circle questions if you don't know the answer.)			B. Has a doctor ever requested a test for your heart? (For example, electrocardiogram (ECG) or echocardiogram.)		

Coding & PPE Outcomes

- **ICD-10-CM code for sport PPE is Z02.5**
- Coding the PPE (1° or 2° position) allows EMR tracking
- Diligent coding
 - Research into short- & long-term PPE outcomes
- Large systems - “big data” in relatively short time
- Help determine PPE outcomes & address gaps
 - Utility of the current exam
 - Predictive value of the exams
 - Reasonable exam frequency
 - Shape the future PPE



Why are we doing these PPEs?

- **Jason inquires as to why are we doing these PPEs, in particular on a Friday night when he may have issues with work hour restrictions?**



Purpose of the PPE

- **Primary Objectives:**

- Screen for conditions that may be **life threatening** or disabling.
- Screen for conditions that may **predispose to illness** or injury.

- **Secondary Objectives:**

- Determine **general health**.
- Serve as an entry point to the health care system for adolescents.
- Provide an opportunity to initiate discussion on **health related topics**.



Timing and Frequency of the PPE

- **Timing:**
 - Ideally, the preparticipation physical evaluation (PPE) should take place **four to six weeks before the season starts**, permitting time to evaluate and treat medical problems and/or rehabilitate musculoskeletal injuries before sports participation.
- **Frequency:**
 - Most sports medicine clinicians recommend that the PPE be conducted **before each new level of participation** (eg, middle school, junior high, high school, and college), with **yearly updates** of the history and targeted physical examinations.
 - Requirements for the frequency of PPE **vary by state**, but most state high school athletic associations require annual evaluations.
 - The AHA recommends that a PPE examination be **performed every two years** during sports participation, with an **interim history taken in the intervening years**.

Maron BJ, Thompson PD, Puffer JC, et al. Cardiovascular preparticipation screening of competitive athletes. A statement for health professionals from the Sudden Death Committee (clinical cardiology) and Congenital Cardiac Defects Committee (cardiovascular disease in the young), American Heart Association. *Circulation* 1996; 94:850.

PPE Writing Group Consensus

- **A comprehensive PPE every 2 to 3 years**
 - Grade school, middle school, & high school
 - **Integrate into HCH health supervision examinations**
- Annual questionnaire
 - Heart, head, heat injury, & mental health issues
 - Problem-focused examination if concerns



Frequency of the Evaluation 17

■ FREQUENCY OF THE EVALUATION

There are no outcomes-based data to guide the recommendations for frequency of the PPE.

Setting of the PPE

- **Office setting:**
 - Examination in the office setting by the athlete's primary care provider has the advantages of **privacy, continuity of care, and the provider's knowledge of past medical and family history.**
 - However, the complete examination is time consuming and may have **insufficient focus on the important sports-related components** of the PPE.



Setting of the PPE

- **Station approach:**
 - In the station approach, the athlete is examined by **multiple examiners** through a series of stations specific to individual components of the evaluation.
 - The station approach is time efficient, sports oriented, and inexpensive, and has a high yield for identifying abnormalities; however, it generally **does not afford confidentiality and may not provide for continuity of care.**



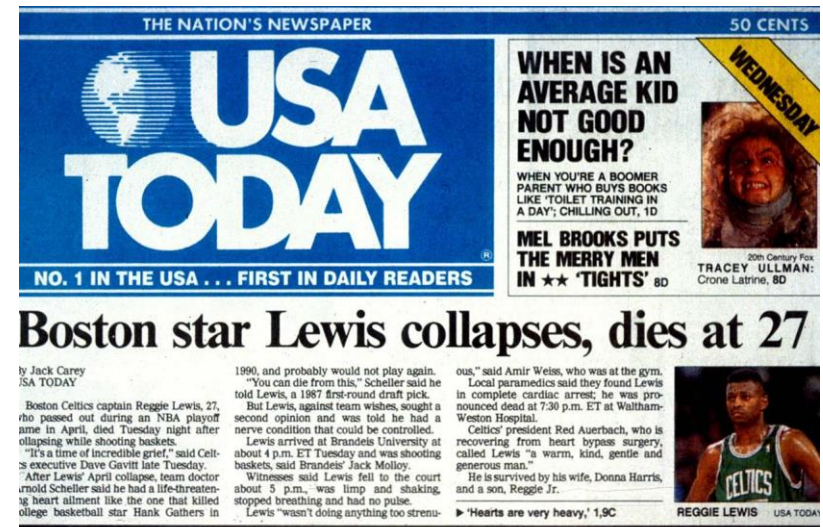
Exertional Sudden Death in Athletes

- Jason inquires as to what are the more common causes of exertional illness we are screening for?



Epidemiology of Sudden Death in Young Athletes

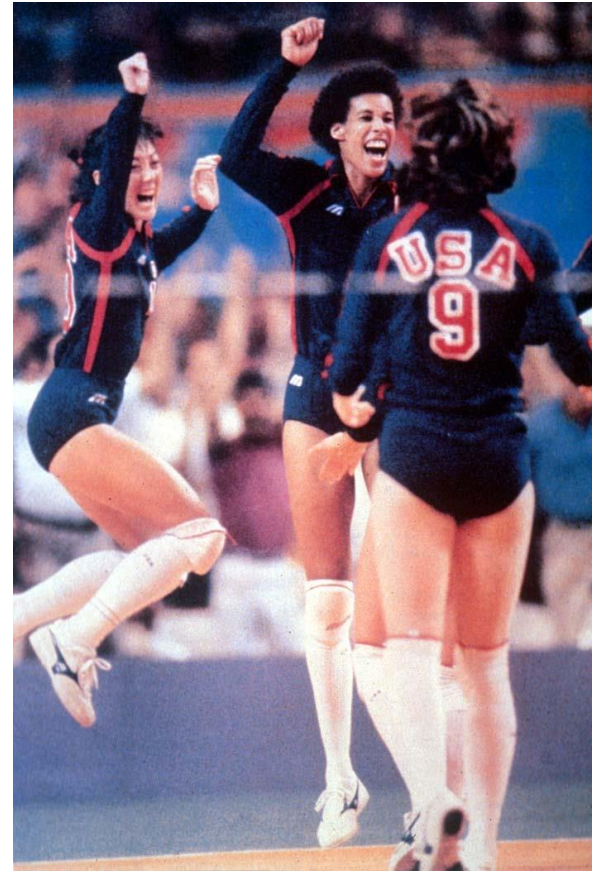
- Sudden cardiac death in athletes is an **uncommon** event.
- Risk in young athletes is approximately 1:50,000 - 100,000/yr.
- Risk ranges from 1:15,000 to 1:50,000/yr In older athletes.



Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of EXERTIONAL death in Young Athletes!

Epidemiology of Exertional Sudden Death

- Estimated death rates in **male athletes** are **5X higher** than in **female** athletes.
- Estimated death rates in **college athletes** are **2X higher** than in **high school** athletes.
- Non-cardiac deaths account for 22% of deaths.
- **Football and basketball** account for the majority of sudden deaths.
- **African Americans** appear to be at greater risk.

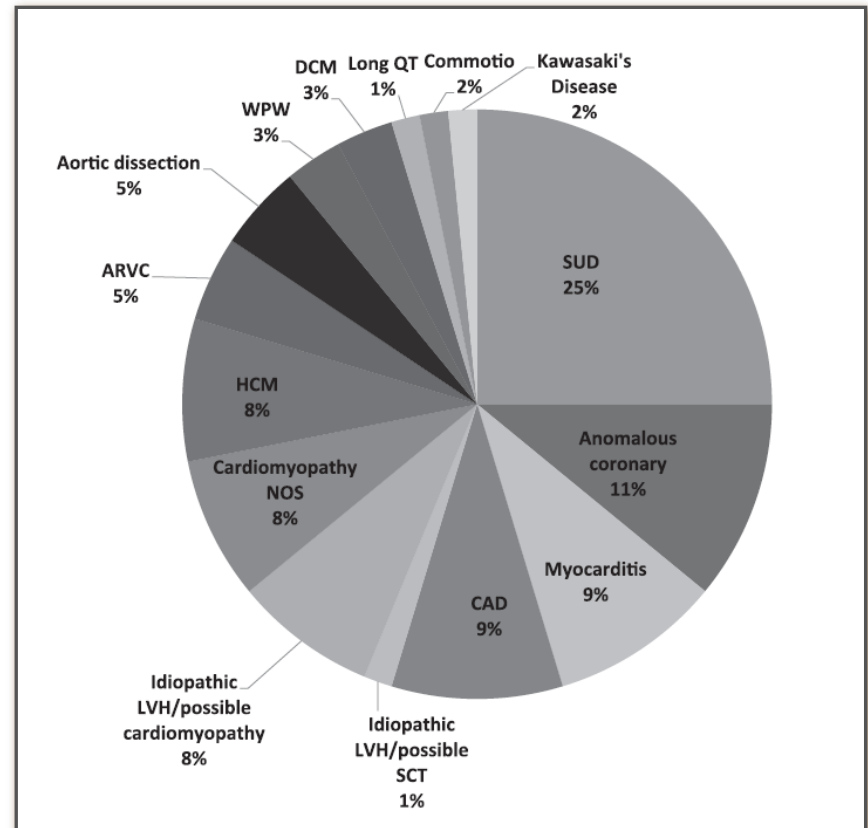


VanCamp SP et al: Nontraumatic sports deaths in high school and college athletes. MSSE 1992;24(3):279-80.

Sudden Unexplained Cardiac Death (SUD)



- The incidence of SCD in Division 1 male basketball athletes was 1:5200 AY.
- The most common findings at autopsy were **autopsy-negative sudden unexplained death** in 16 (25%), and definitive evidence for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy was seen in 5 (8%).



Harmon KG et al: Incidence, Cause, and Comparative Frequency of Sudden Cardiac Death in National Collegiate Athletic Association Athletes: A Decade in Review. *Circulation*. 2015 Jul 7;132(1):10-9.

An Appropriate History and Physical Examination

- **Jason inquires as to appropriate questions to ask athletes as you begin the preparticipation examinations.**



14 Point AHA Update

TABLE. The 12-Element AHA Recommendations for Preparticipation Cardiovascular Screening of Competitive Athletes

Medical history*

Personal history

1. Exertional chest pain/discomfort
2. Unexplained syncope/near-syncope†
3. Excessive exertional and unexplained dyspnea/fatigue, associated with exercise
4. Prior recognition of a heart murmur
5. Elevated systemic blood pressure

Family history

6. Premature death (sudden and unexpected, or otherwise) before age 50 years due to heart disease, in ≥ 1 relative
7. Disability from heart disease in a close relative < 50 years of age
8. Specific knowledge of certain cardiac conditions in family members: hypertrophic or dilated cardiomyopathy, long-QT syndrome or other ion channelopathies, Marfan syndrome, or clinically important arrhythmias

Physical examination

9. Heart murmur‡
10. Femoral pulses to exclude aortic coarctation
11. Physical stigmata of Marfan syndrome
12. Brachial artery blood pressure (sitting position)§

Table 1. The 14-Element AHA Recommendations for Preparticipation Cardiovascular Screening of Competitive Athletes

Medical history*

Personal history

1. Chest pain/discomfort/tightness/pressure related to exertion
2. Unexplained syncope/near-syncope†
3. Excessive and unexplained dyspnea/fatigue or palpitations, associated with exercise
4. Prior recognition of a heart murmur
5. Elevated systemic blood pressure
6. Prior restriction from participation in sports
7. Prior testing for the heart, ordered by a physician

Family history

8. Premature death (sudden and unexpected, or otherwise) before 50 y of age attributable to heart disease in ≥ 1 relative
9. Disability from heart disease in close relative < 50 y of age
10. Hypertrophic or dilated cardiomyopathy, long-QT syndrome, or other ion channelopathies, Marfan syndrome, or clinically significant arrhythmias; specific knowledge of genetic cardiac conditions in family members

Physical examination

11. Heart murmur‡
12. Femoral pulses to exclude aortic coarctation
13. Physical stigmata of Marfan syndrome
14. Brachial artery blood pressure (sitting position)§

Maron BJ, Levine BD, Washington RL, et al. Eligibility and Disqualification Recommendations for Competitive Athletes With Cardiovascular Abnormalities: Task Force 2: Preparticipation Screening for Cardiovascular Disease in Competitive Athletes: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology. *Circulation* 2015; 132:e267.

AHA Recommendations

■ Family History

- Premature death (sudden and unexpected, or otherwise) **before age 50** years due to heart disease in a close relative
- **Disability** from heart disease in a close relative **<50 years of age**
- Specific knowledge of certain cardiac conditions in **family members**: hypertrophic or dilated cardiomyopathy, long QT syndrome or other ion channelopathies, Marfan Syndrome, or clinically important arrhythmias.



Maron BJ, Thompson PD, Puffer JC, et al. Cardiovascular preparticipation screening of competitive athletes. A statement for health professionals from the Sudden Death Committee (clinical cardiology) and Congenital Cardiac Defects Committee (cardiovascular disease in the young), American Heart Association. *Circulation* 1996; 94:850.

AHA Recommendations

■ Personal History

- Exertional chest pain/discomfort
- Unexplained syncope/**presyncope**
- Excessive exertional and unexplained dyspnea/fatigue, associated with exercise
- Prior recognition of a heart murmur
- Elevated systemic blood pressure



Maron BJ, Thompson PD, Puffer JC, et al. Cardiovascular preparticipation screening of competitive athletes. A statement for health professionals from the Sudden Death Committee (clinical cardiology) and Congenital Cardiac Defects Committee (cardiovascular disease in the young), American Heart Association. *Circulation* 1996; 94:850.

Not to be Forgotten!

- **Musculoskeletal Symptoms**
 - Status of rehabilitation of prior injuries
- **Concussion Symptoms**
 - Baseline symptoms
- **Respiratory Symptoms**
 - Occult asthma
- **Eating Disorders**
- **Psychologic Stress**



An Appropriate History and Physical Examination

- **Jason inquires as to how detailed the physical examination needs to be?**



PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM

Name _____ Date of birth _____

PHYSICIAN REMINDERS

- Consider additional questions on more sensitive issues:
 - Do you feel stressed out or under a lot of pressure?
 - Do you ever feel sad, hopeless, depressed, or anxious?
 - Do you feel safe at your home or residence?
 - Have you ever tried cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
 - During the past 30 days, did you use chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
 - Do you drink alcohol or use any other drugs?
 - Have you ever taken anabolic steroids or used any other performance supplement?
 - Have you ever taken any supplements to help you gain or lose weight or improve your performance?
 - Do you wear a seat belt, use a helmet, and use condoms?
- Consider reviewing questions on cardiovascular symptoms (questions 5–14).

EXAMINATION		
Height _____	Weight _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
BP _____ / _____ (/)	Pulse _____	Vision R 20/ _____ L 20/ _____ Corrected: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
MEDICAL	NORMAL	ABNORMAL FINDINGS
Appearance • Marfan stigmata (kyphoscoliosis, high-arched palate, pectus excavatum, arachnodactyly, arm span > height, hypertaxity, myopia, MVP, aortic insufficiency)		
Eyes/ears/nose/throat • Pupils equal • Hearing		
Lymph Nodes		
Heart* • Murmurs (auscultation standing, supine, +/- Valsalva) • Location of point of maximal impulse (PMI)		
Pulses • Simultaneous femoral and radial pulses		
Lungs		
Abdomen		
Genitourinary (males only)		
Skin • HSV, lesions suggestive of MRSA, tinea corporis		
Neurologic*		
MUSCULOSKELETAL		
Neck		
Back		
Shoulder/arm		
Elbow/forearm		
Wrist/hand/fingers		
Hip/thigh		
Knee		
Leg/ankle		
Foot/toes		
Functional • Duck-walk, single leg hop		

*Consider ECG, echocardiogram, and referral to cardiology for abnormal cardiac history or exam.
 *Consider GI exam if in private setting. Having third party present is recommended.
 *Consider cognitive evaluation or baseline neuropsychiatric testing if a history of significant concussion.

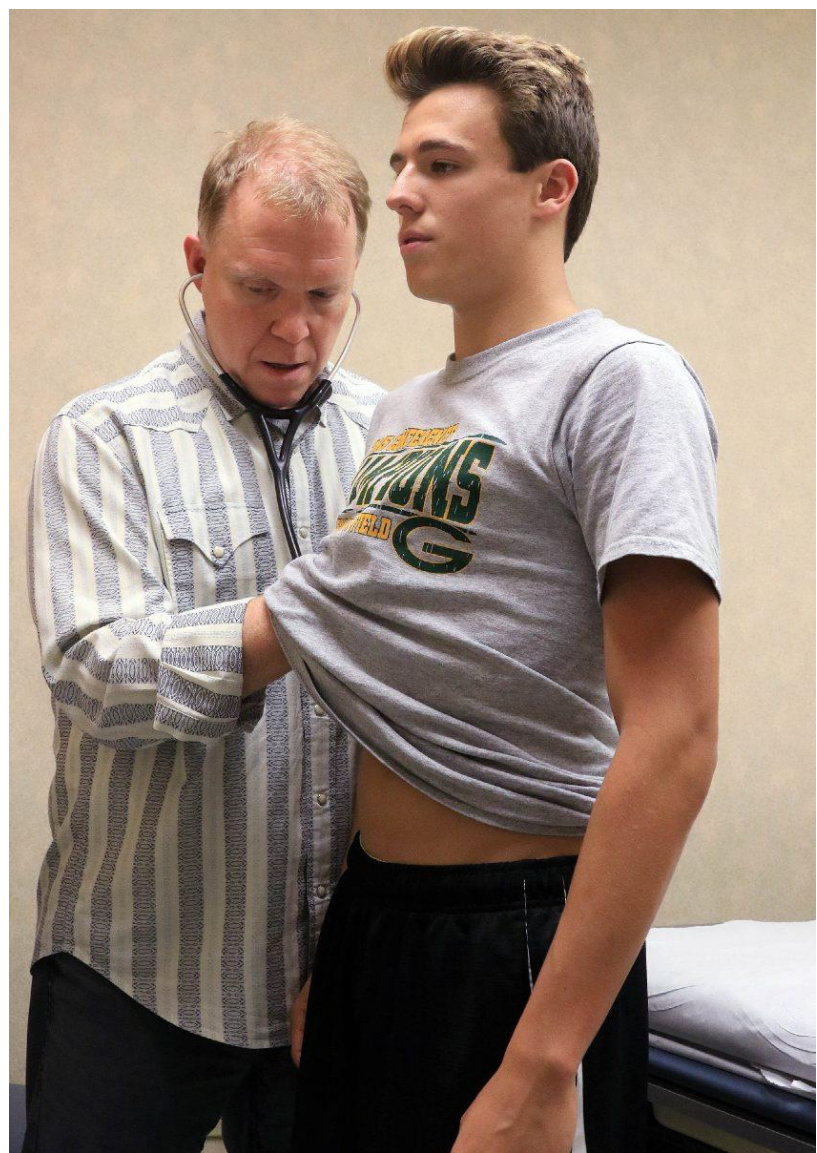
I certify that the above student has been medically evaluated for participation in athletics and deemed:

- CLEARED WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS
- Cleared for LIMITED PARTICIPATION
 Not cleared for (specific sports) _____
 Cleared only for (specific sports) _____
- Requires further evaluation before a final recommendation
- Not cleared for participation
 Reasons: _____

- Other recommendations: _____

Name of physician (printed/typed): _____ Date of Examination: _____

Signature of physician: _____

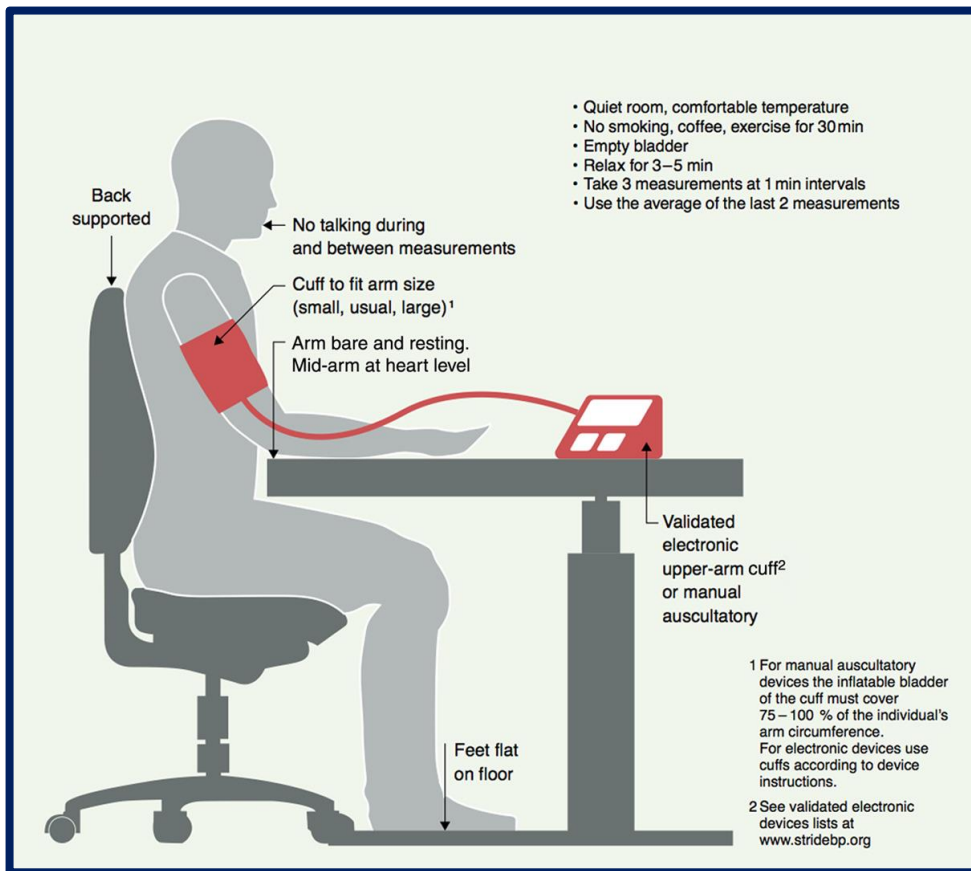


14 Element AHA Recommendations

- **Physical Examination**
 - Brachial Artery Blood Pressure
 - Femoral Pulses to Exclude Aortic Coarctation
 - Physical Stigmata of Marfan Syndrome
 - Heart Murmur (Supine and standing, or Valsalva to identify murmur of dynamic left ventricle outflow obstruction)



Blood Pressure Assessment



Clinical Practice Guidelines

2020 International Society of Hypertension Global Hypertension Practice Guidelines

Thomas Unger, Claudio Borghi, Fadi Charchar, Nadia A. Khan, Neil R. Poulter, Dorairaj Prabhakaran, Agustín Ramirez, Markus Schlaich, George S. Stergiou, Maciej Tomaszewski, Richard D. Wainford, Bryan Williams, Aletta E. Schutte

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Section 1: Introduction

Context and Purpose of This Guideline

Statement of Remit

To align with its mission to reduce the global burden of raised blood pressure (BP), the International Society of Hypertension (ISH) has developed worldwide practice guidelines for the management of hypertension in adults, aged 18 years and older.

The ISH Guidelines Committee extracted evidence-based content presented in recently published extensively reviewed guidelines and tailored **ESSENTIAL** and **OPTIMAL** standards of care in a practical format that is easy-to-use particularly in low, but also in high resource settings – by clinicians, but also nurses and community health workers, as appropriate. Although distinction between low and high resource settings often refers to high (HIC) and low- and middle-income countries (LMIC), it is well established that in HIC there are areas with low resource settings, and vice versa.

Herein optimal care refers to evidence-based standard of care articulated in recent guidelines^{1,2} and summarized here, whereas **ESSENTIAL** standards recognize that **OPTIMAL** standards would not always be possible. Hence essential standards refer to minimum standards of care. To allow specification of essential standards of care for low resource settings, the Committee was often confronted with the limitation or absence in clinical evidence, and thus applied expert opinion.

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This article has been published in the Journal of Hypertension.

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Blood Pressure Assessment: Young Athlete

• Diagnosis:

TABLE 3 Updated Definitions of BP Categories and Stages

For Children Aged 1–13 y	For Children Aged ≥ 13 y
Normal BP: <90th percentile	Normal BP: <120/<80 mm Hg
Elevated BP: ≥90th percentile to <95th percentile or 120/80 mm Hg to <95th percentile (whichever is lower)	Elevated BP: 120/<80 to 129/<80 mm Hg
Stage 1 HTN: ≥95th percentile to <95th percentile + 12 mmHg, or 130/80 to 139/89 mm Hg (whichever is lower)	Stage 1 HTN: 130/80 to 139/89 mm Hg
Stage 2 HTN: ≥95th percentile + 12 mm Hg, or ≥140/90 mm Hg (whichever is lower)	Stage 2 HTN: ≥140/90 mm Hg



CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE: Guidance for the Clinician in Rendering Pediatric Care

American Academy
of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

Clinical Practice Guideline for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents

Joseph T. Flynn, MD, MS, FAAP; David C. Kaelber, MD, PhD, MPH, FAAP, FACP, FACC¹; Carissa M. Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA²; Douglas Blowey, MD³; Aaron E. Carroll, MD, MS, FAAP⁴; Stephen R. Daniels, MD, PhD, FAAP⁵; Sarah D. de Ferranti, MD, MPH, FAAP⁶; Jania M. Diermeier, MD, FRCPC⁷; Bonita Falkner, MD⁸; Susan K. Flinn, MA⁹; Samuel S. Gidding, MD¹⁰; Celeste Goodwin¹¹; Michael G. Lese, MD, MS, MHS, FAAP¹²; Makia E. Powers, MD, MPH, FAAP¹³; Corinna Rea, MD, MPH, FAAP¹⁴; Joshua Samuels, MD, MPH, FAAP¹⁵; Madeline Simsek, MD, MSPC, FAAP¹⁶; Vidhu V. Thaker, MD, FAAP¹⁷; Elaine M. Urbina, MD, MS, FAAP¹⁸; SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCREENING AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IN CHILDREN

These pediatric hypertension guidelines are an update to the 2004 "Fourth Report on the Diagnosis, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents." Significant changes in these guidelines include (1) the replacement of the term "prehypertension" with the term "elevated blood pressure," (2) new normative pediatric blood pressure (BP) tables based on normal-weight children, (3) a simplified screening table for identifying BPs needing further evaluation, (4) a simplified BP classification in adolescents ≥15 years of age that aligns with the forthcoming American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology adult BP guidelines, (5) a more limited recommendation to perform screening BP measurements only at preventive care visits, (6) streamlined recommendations on the initial evaluation and management of abnormal BPs, (7) an expanded role for ambulatory BP monitoring in the diagnosis and management of pediatric hypertension, and (8) revised recommendations on when to perform echocardiography in the evaluation of newly diagnosed hypertensive pediatric patients (generally only before medication initiation), along with a revised definition of left ventricular hypertrophy. These guidelines include 30 Key Action Statements and 27 additional recommendations derived from a comprehensive review of almost 15,000 published articles between January 2004 and July 2016. Each Key Action Statement includes level of evidence, benefit-harm relationship, and strength of recommendation. This clinical practice guideline, endorsed by the American Heart Association, is intended to foster a patient- and family-centered approach to care, reduce unnecessary and costly medical interventions, improve patient diagnoses and outcomes, support implementation, and provide direction for future research.

abstract

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FROM THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Blood Pressure Assessment: Adult

Other Risk Factors, HMOD, or Disease	High-Normal SBP 130–139 DBP 85–89	Grade 1 SBP 140–159 DBP 90–99	Grade 2 SBP ≥160 DBP ≥100	
No other risk factors	Low	Low	Moderate	High
1 or 2 risk factors	Low	Moderate	High	
≥3 risk factors	Low	Moderate	High	High
HMOD, CKD grade 3, diabetes mellitus, CVD	High	High	High	

Unger T, Borghi C, Charchar F, Khan NA, Poulter NR, Prabhakaran D, Ramirez A, Schlaich M, Stergiou GS, Tomaszewski M, Wainford RD, Williams B, Schutte AE. 2020 International Society of Hypertension global hypertension practice guidelines. *J Hypertens.* 2020 Jun;38(6):982-1004.

auscultation - scultation

Normal:

- systolic ejection murmur
- begins after first heart sound
- ends before the second heart sound
- crescendo-decrescendo profile
 - normal inspiratory S2 split
- normal dynamic assessment



Suspicious:

- diastolic, holosystolic, or continuous
- grade III or greater in intensity
 - abnormal S2 splitting
- abnormal dynamic assessment

- Splitting
- Dynamic exam
- Pathologic vs N

Screening for Marfan Syndrome

Table 6A-2. Diagnostic Criteria for Marfan Syndrome

The diagnosis of Marfan syndrome relies on a set of defined clinical criteria (the 2010 Ghent nosology) developed to facilitate accurate recognition of the syndrome and improve patient treatment and counseling. The diagnostic criteria put more weight onto the cardiovascular manifestations of the disorder. Aortic root aneurysm and ectopia lentis (dislocated lenses) are now cardinal features.

- In the absence of any family history, the presence of these 2 features is sufficient for the unequivocal diagnosis of Marfan syndrome.
- In the absence of one of these 2 cardinal features, the presence of either an *FBN1* mutation or a positive systemic score is required.
- In some cases, genetic testing can be helpful.

Experts expect that while use of new diagnostic criteria makes a definitive diagnosis of Marfan syndrome take longer, it decreases the risk of a premature or missed diagnosis.

In the Absence of Family History

1. Aortic root dilatation z score ≥ 2 and ectopia lentis = Marfan syndrome.
2. Aortic root dilatation z score ≥ 2 and an *FBN1* mutation = Marfan syndrome.
3. Aortic root dilatation z score ≥ 2 and a systemic score ≥ 7 points = Marfan syndrome.
4. Ectopia lentis and an *FBN1* mutation associated with aortic root dilatation = Marfan syndrome.

In the Presence of Family History

1. Ectopia lentis and family history of Marfan syndrome (as defined to the left) = Marfan syndrome.
2. A systemic score ≥ 7 points and family history of Marfan syndrome (as defined to the left) = Marfan syndrome.
3. Aortic root dilatation z score ≥ 2 if patient age ≥ 20 y, or ≥ 3 if patient age < 20 y, and family history of Marfan syndrome (as defined to the left) = Marfan syndrome.

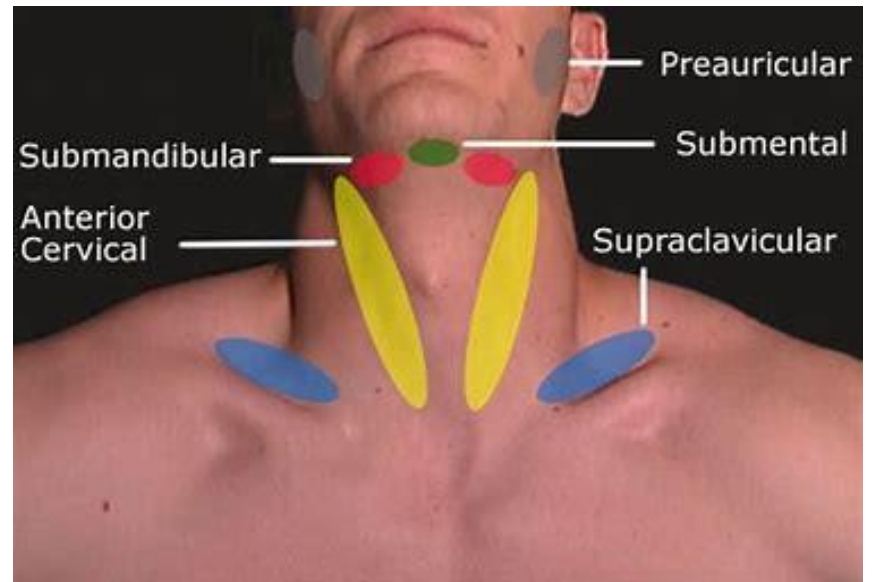
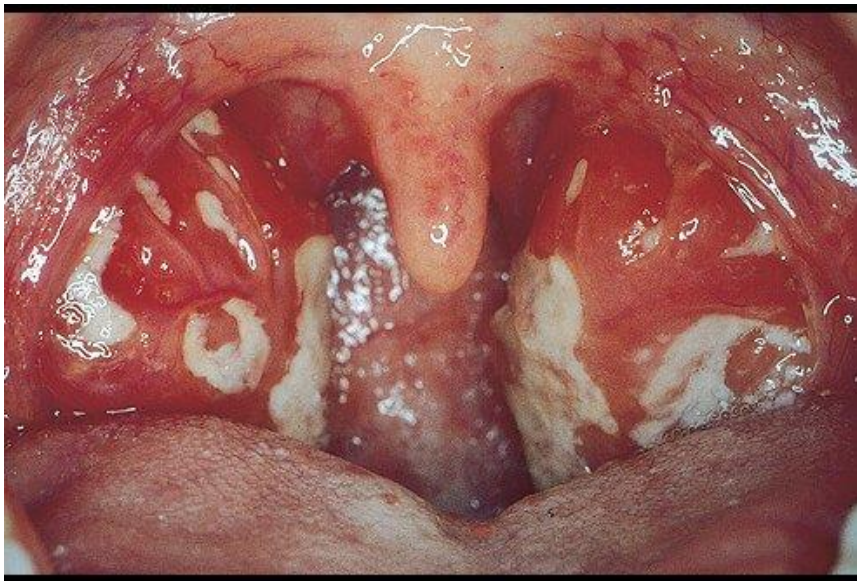


Not to be Forgotten!

- **Musculoskeletal Screening Examination**
- **Pulmonary Examination**
- **HEENT/Skin**
- **Abdomen/Genital Examination**
- **Functional Testing**



HEENT



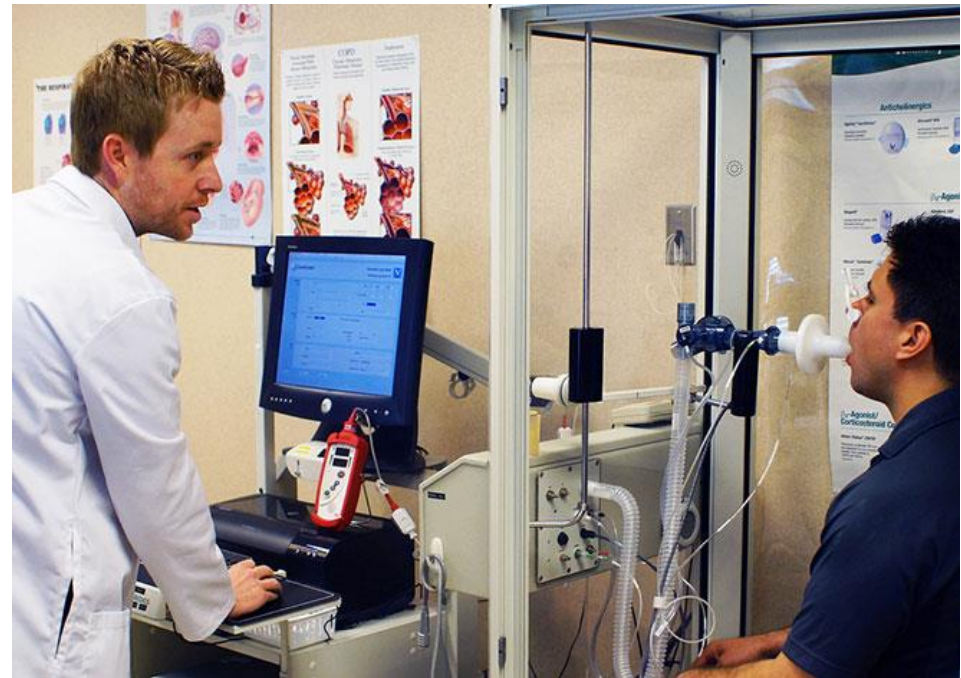
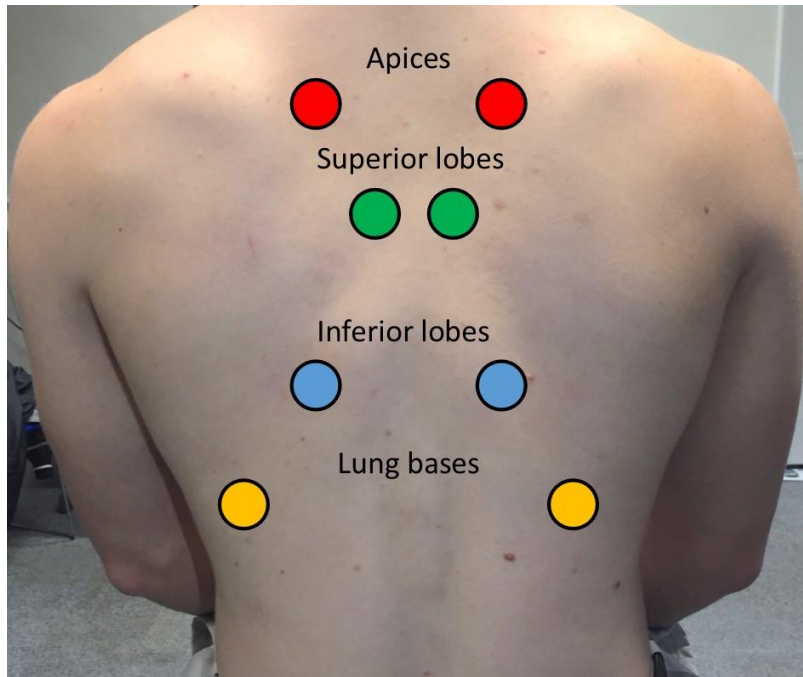
Skin



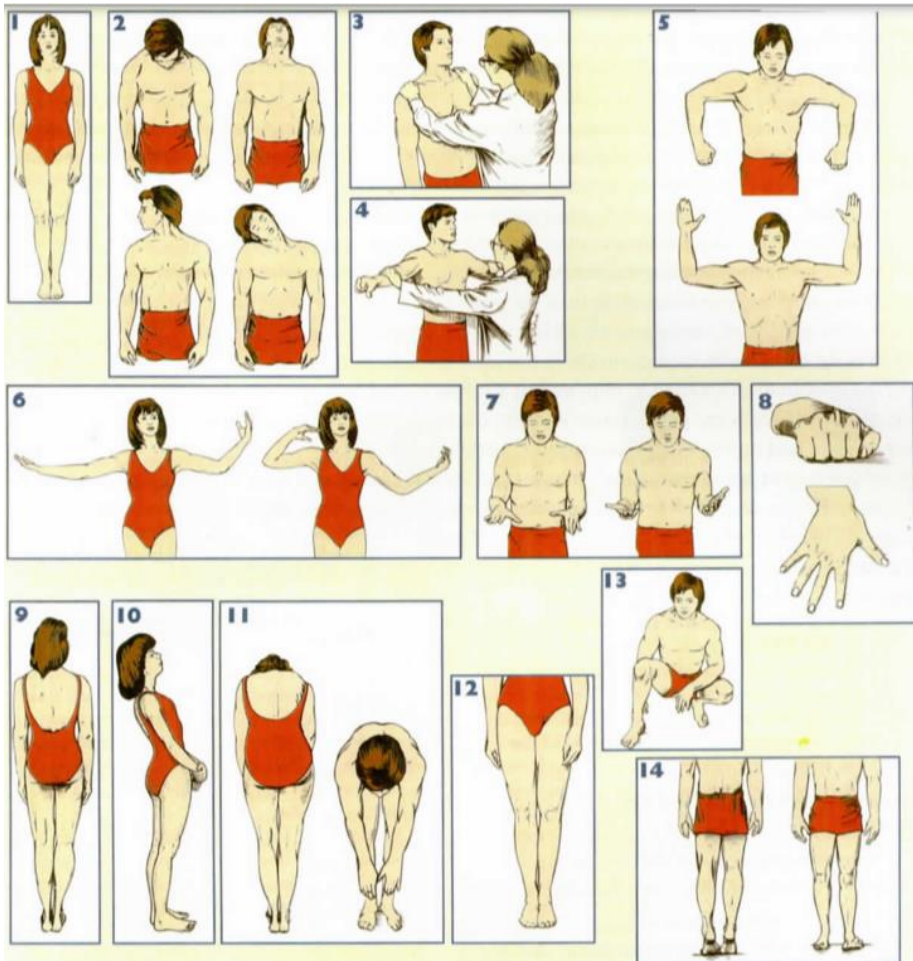
Abdominal/Genitourinary



Pulmonary Auscultation



Musculoskeletal Screening Examination



Screening for Musculoskeletal Laxity

Beighton Hypermobility Score		Right side scoring	Left side scoring
Maneuver	Image	___ / 1 point	___ / 1 point
Ability to passively dorsiflex the fifth metacarpophalangeal joint ≥ 90 degrees		___ / 1 point	___ / 1 point
Ability to oppose the thumb to the volar aspect of the ipsilateral forearm		___ / 1 point	___ / 1 point
Ability to hyperextend the elbow joint > 10 degrees		___ / 1 point	___ / 1 point
Ability to hyperextend the knee joint > 10 degrees		___ / 1 point	___ / 1 point
Ability to place hands flat on the floor by bending forward with knees fully extended		___ / 1 point	___ / 1 point
Total		___ / 9 points	

Note: The Beighton score is the summed total of the scores from each extremity and bending forward.

Criteria for generalized joint hypermobility*

1. Beighton score ≥ 6 in prepubertal children and adolescents
2. Beighton score ≥ 5 from puberty up to 50 years of age
3. Beighton score ≥ 4 in persons older than 50 years

Add one point if five-point questionnaire is positive (i.e., two or more yes answers)

Five-point questionnaire†

Five-point questionnaire is positive if patient answers yes to two or more questions

1. Can you now (or could you ever) place your hands flat on the floor without bending your knees?
2. Can you now (or could you ever) bend your thumb to touch your forearm?
3. As a child, did you amuse your friends by contorting your body into strange shapes or could you do the splits?
4. As a child or teenager, did your shoulder or kneecap dislocate on more than one occasion?
5. Do you consider yourself double-jointed?

Yew KS, Kamps-Schmitt KA, Borge R. Hypermobile Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders. Am Fam Physician. 2021 Apr 15;103(8):481-492.

Functional Testing

The Functional Movement Screen



1. Squatting



2. Stepping



3. Lunging



4. Reaching



5. Leg Raising



6. Push-up



7. Rotary Stability

The Role of Special Tests

- **Jason asks about a number of special tests that he has heard might be valuable in athletes:**
 - **CBC and UA**
 - **Electrocardiogram and Echocardiography**
 - **Sickle Cell Screening**
 - **Neurocognitive Testing**



Overriding Ethical Principles

- **“Beneficence”**
 - is the obligations to **confer benefits**, to prevent and remove harms, and to **weigh and balance the possible goods against the costs and possible harms** of an action.
- **“Non Maleficence”**
 - requires an **intention to avoid needless harm** or injury that can arise through acts of commission or omission.



Routine Blood Tests and UA

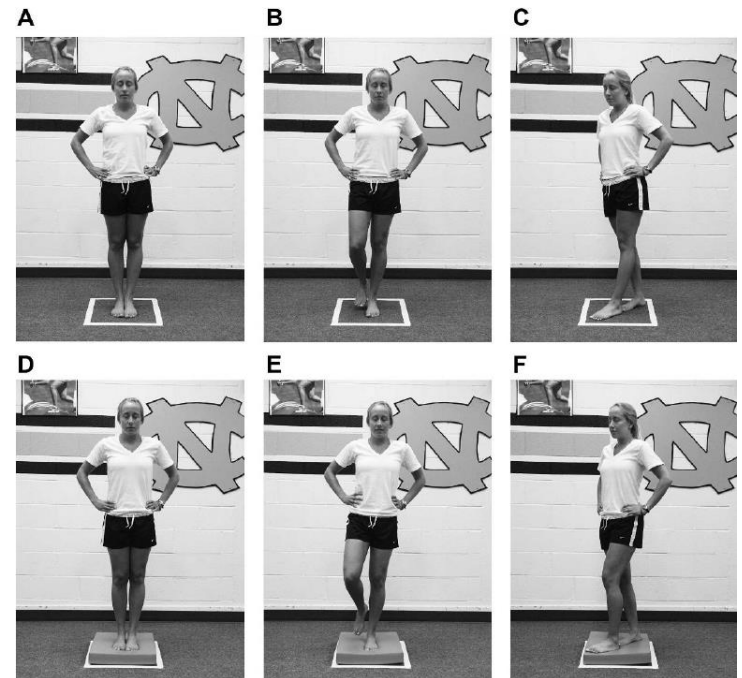
- Routine laboratory testing is not recommended as part of the preparticipation physical evaluation (PPE) in the absence of symptoms.



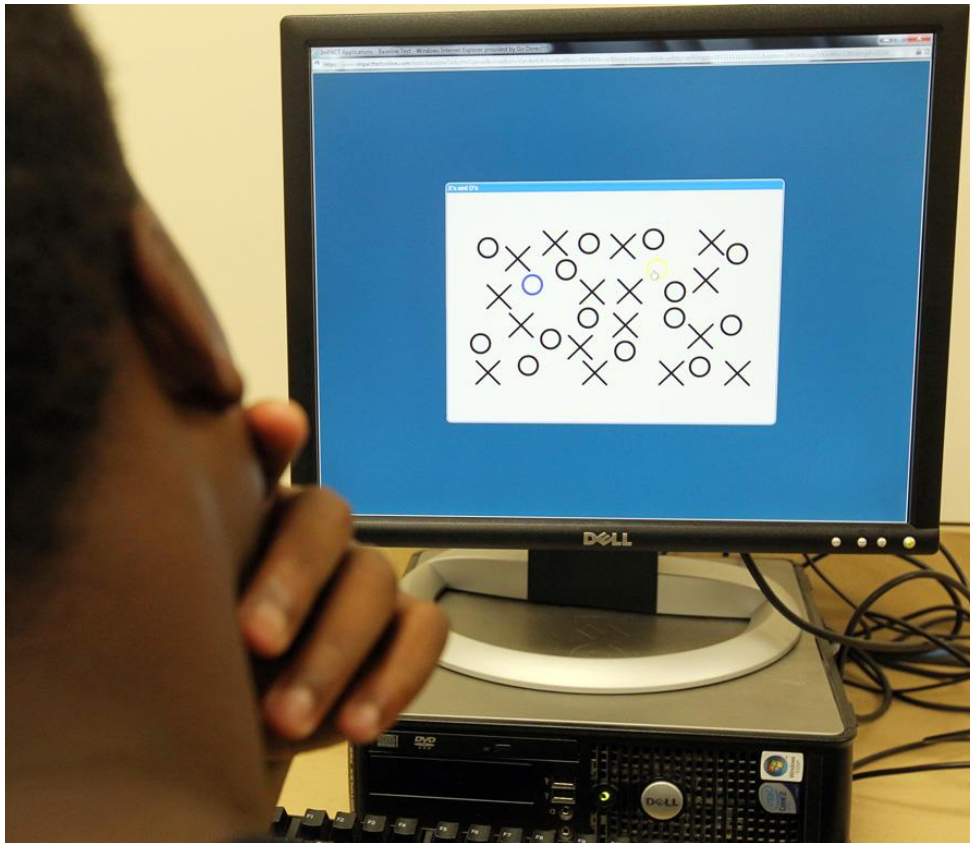
American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Sports Me. Preparticipation Physical Evaluation, 4th ed, Bernhardt D, Roberts W (Eds), American Academy of Pediatrics, Elk Grove Village, IL 2010.

Baseline Concussion Testing

- Pre-participation assessment. A one-time, pre-participation baseline concussion assessment for all varsity student-athletes should include, but not necessarily be limited to:
 - A brain injury/concussion history.
 - Symptom evaluation.
 - Cognitive assessment.
 - Balance evaluation.
 - The team physician should determine pre-participation clearance and/or the need for additional consultation or testing.



Neurocognitive Testing



BJSM Online First, published on April 26, 2017 as 10.1136/bjsports-2017-097506SCAT5
To download a clean version of the SCAT tools please visit the journal online (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bjsports-2017-097506SCAT5>)

SCAT5[®] SPORT CONCUSSION ASSESSMENT TOOL – 5TH EDITION

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Patient details

Name: _____
 DOB: _____
 Address: _____
 ID number: _____
 Examiner: _____
 Date of Injury: _____ Time: _____

WHAT IS THE SCAT5?

The SCAT5 is a standardized tool for evaluating concussions designed for use by physicians and licensed healthcare professionals'. The SCAT5 cannot be performed correctly in less than 10 minutes.

If you are not a physician or licensed healthcare professional, please use the Concussion Recognition Tool 5 (CRT5). The SCAT5 is to be used for evaluating athletes aged 13 years and older. For children aged 12 years or younger, please use the Child SCAT5.

Preseason SCAT5 baseline testing can be useful for interpreting post-injury test scores, but is not required for that purpose. Detailed instructions for use of the SCAT5 are provided on page 7. Please read through these instructions carefully before testing the athlete. Brief verbal instructions for each test are given in italics. The only equipment required for the tester is a watch or timer.

This tool may be freely copied in its current form for distribution to individuals, teams, groups and organizations. It should not be altered in any way, re-branded or sold for commercial gain. Any revision, translation or reproduction in a digital form requires specific approval by the Concussion in Sport Group.

Recognise and Remove

A head impact by either a direct blow or indirect transmission of force can be associated with a serious and potentially fatal brain injury. If there are significant concerns, including any of the red flags listed in Box 1, then activation of emergency procedures and urgent transport to the nearest hospital should be arranged.

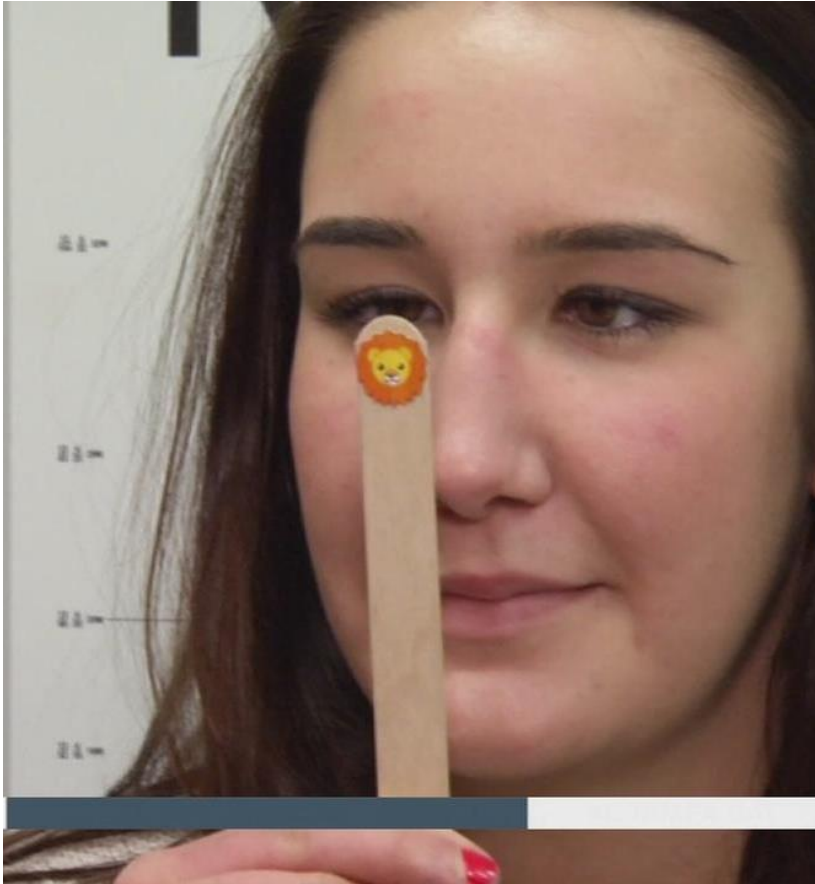
Key points

- Any athlete with suspected concussion should be REMOVED FROM PLAY, medically assessed and monitored for deterioration. No athlete diagnosed with concussion should be returned to play on the day of injury.
- If an athlete is suspected of having a concussion and medical personnel are not immediately available, the athlete should be referred to a medical facility for urgent assessment.
- Athletes with suspected concussion should not drink alcohol, use recreational drugs and should not drive a motor vehicle until cleared to do so by a medical professional.
- Concussion signs and symptoms evolve over time and it is important to consider repeat evaluation in the assessment of concussion.
- The diagnosis of a concussion is a clinical judgment, made by a medical professional. The SCAT5 should NOT be used by itself to make, or exclude, the diagnosis of concussion. An athlete may have a concussion even if their SCAT5 is "normal".

Remember:

- The basic principles of first aid (danger, response, airway, breathing, circulation) should be followed.
- Do not attempt to move the athlete (other than that required for airway management) unless trained to do so.
- Assessment for a spinal cord injury is a critical part of the initial on-field assessment.
- Do not remove a helmet or any other equipment unless trained to do so safely.

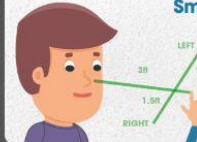
Visual Ocular-Motor Testing (VOMS)



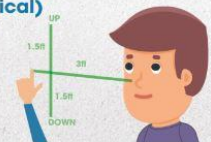
Vestibular/Ocular-Motor Screening (VOMS)

Smooth Pursuits (Horizontal & Vertical)

Tests ability to follow a slowly moving target



Both patient and clinician are seated
Patient follows finger with eyes
Do NOT move head, just eyes
2 reps at rate of 2 sec / rep
Rate symptoms (0-10)
Complete for both horizontal & vertical

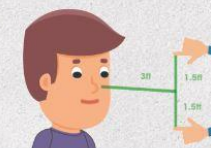


Saccades (Horizontal & Vertical)

Tests ability of eyes to move quickly between targets



Both patient and clinician are seated
Clinician holds fingers 3' apart
Patient initially looks L-R
Do NOT move head, just eyes
10 reps as quickly as possible
Rate symptoms (0-10)
Repeat with patient looking Up-Down



Convergence

Measures ability to view a near target without double vision

Patient holds target with 14-point font "X" at arms length
Patient brings target toward eyes focusing on the "X"
Stop when they see double
Clinician measures distance from tip of nose to target (cm)
Repeat 3x, record all 3
Rate symptoms (0-10)



Visual Motion Sensitivity

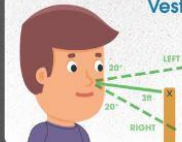
Tests visual motion sensitivity & ability to inhibit vestibular induced eye movements using vision

Patient holds arm outstretched in front with thumbs up
Turn body as a unit to L-R 80 deg from midline focusing on thumb
Use metronome 50 bpm
Repeat 5 revolutions
Rate symptoms (0-10)



Vestibular-Ocular Reflex (Horizontal & Vertical)

Assess ability to stabilize vision as head moves



Clinician holds target 3' from patient's eye level
Patient initially turns head L-R 10x
Keep eyes focused on target
Use metronome 180 bpm
Wait 10 seconds
Rate symptoms (0-10)
Repeat with patient looking Up-Down

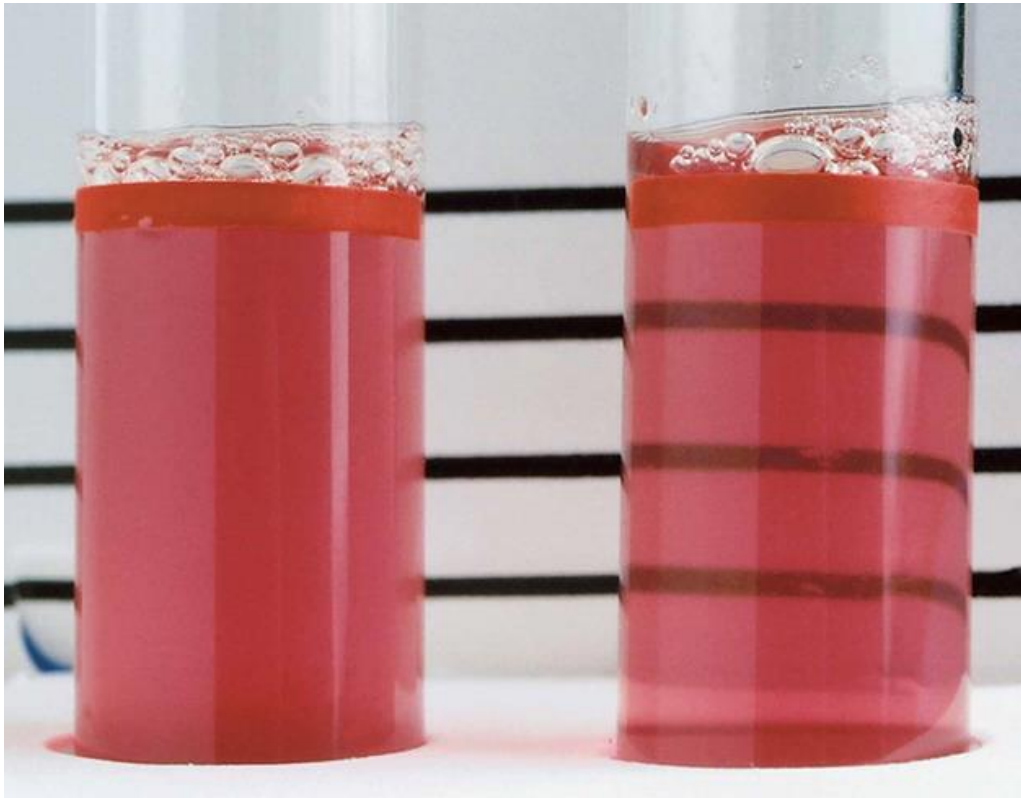


Visit natafoundation.org/for-the-profession for more info including the NATA Foundation e-article on VOMS

- Collins MW, Karlos AP, Reynolds E, et al. A comprehensive, targeted approach to the clinical care of athletes following sport-related concussion. *Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc.* 2014;22:235-246.
- Khan S, Chang R. Anatomy of the vestibular system: a review. *NeuroRehabilitation.* 2013;32:437-443.
- Karlos AP, Sufirko A, Eibler RJ, Puskas A, Collins MW. Reliability and associated risk factors for performance on the vestibular/ocular motor screening (VOMS) tool in healthy collegiate athletes. *Am J Sports Med.* 2016;44:1400-1406.
- Mucha A, Collins MW, et al. A brief vestibular/ocular motor screening (VOMS) assessment to evaluate concussions: preliminary findings. *Am J Sports Med.* 2014;42:2479-2486.

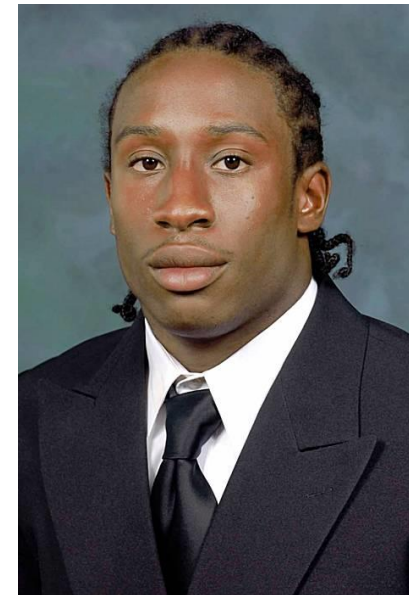


Sickle Cell Screening



Primary Prevention

- The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) adopted a policy requiring Division I institutions to perform sickle cell trait testing for all incoming student athletes.
- Policy was partly in response to legal settlement with Dale Lloyd Case.
- But then.....



American Society of Hematology: ASH

- Policy **Opposes Mandatory SCT Screening** for Athletic Participation
 - Recommends universal training interventions and additional research
- Believes NCAA Division I policy, as currently written and implemented, **has potential to harm student athletes and larger community of individuals with SCT.**



Statement on Screening for Sickle Cell Trait and Athletic Participation. (2012). *ASH Policy* Retrieved January 2012, from <http://www.hematology.org/advocacy/policy-statements/7704.aspx>

Advanced Cardiac Screening



NCAA Guidance 2016

Consensus statement and guidelines: Interassociation consensus statement on cardiovascular care of college student-athletes

Brian Hairline,¹ Jonathan Drezner,² Aaron Baggish,³ Kimberly G Harmon,²
Michael S Emery,⁴ Robert J Myerburg,⁵ Eduardo Sanchez,⁶ Silvana Molossi,⁷
John T Parsons,¹ Paul D Thompson⁸

► Additional material is published online only. To view

ABSTRACT

Cardiovascular evaluation and care of college student-

E. to educate student-athletes regarding health risks, health-related behaviours, and injuries

Special Tests to Include Echocardiography and Electrocardiography are not Mandated

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CARDIOVASCULAR CARE OF COLLEGE STUDENT-ATHLETES

The preparticipation evaluation

1. The purpose of the preparticipation evaluation is to identify conditions that may put the student-athlete at unreasonable risk of death or catastrophic injury, with the potential to modify and reduce risk through individualised management. In addition, the preparticipation evaluation provides the following opportunities:
 - A. to ensure that current health problems are managed appropriately;
 - B. to identify conditions that serve as barriers to performance;
 - C. to allow the student-athlete an opportunity to establish a relationship with the team physician, athletic trainer and other members of the medical team who may be involved in providing continuing medical care;
 - D. to assess for characteristics that may place the student-athlete at risk for future injury or disease;
 - E. to review medications and/or supplements, including addressing possible requests for therapeutic use exemption; and

atic level (most likely the head team physician) and one clinician provider at the athletic trainer level (most likely the head athletic trainer) who will be charged with the responsibility for ensuring that the preparticipation cardiac screening is conducted with the necessary components, as documented in the following text. Medical records of the examination should be kept in an accessible, secure file for at least the duration of the student-athlete's college career, and should accompany the athlete during any school transfers.

4. As afforded by local resources, cardiac screening on campus is encouraged in an effort to maintain a consistent and high-quality level of care.
 - A. For member institutions that choose to rely on external care providers to provide preparticipation evaluations, an on-campus mechanism should be established to confirm that the preparticipation evaluations are thoroughly reviewed. The goal of the review is to ensure follow-up and completion of any potential abnormal finding (either confirmed or dismissed) prior to organised athletic participation.

Final Assessment

- **You've completed the PPE on John, and it's time for the final assessment.**
- **Jason noted his BP was slightly high; how do you proceed with final clearance?**
- **He is also found to be SCT positive; can he play?**



Athletic Clearance Decision

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION 159
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM

Name _____ Date of birth _____

PHYSICIAN REMINDERS

1. Consider additional questions on more sensitive issues:

- Do you feel stressed out or under a lot of pressure?
- Do you ever feel sad, hopeless, depressed, or anxious?
- Do you feel safe at your home or residence?
- Have you ever tried cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
- During the past 30 days, did you use chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
- Do you drink alcohol or use any other drugs?



I certify that the above student has been medically evaluated for participation in athletics and deemed:

1. CLEARED WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS
2. Cleared for LIMITED PARTICIPATION
 - Not cleared for (specific sports) _____
 - Cleared only for (specific sports) _____
3. Requires further evaluation before a final recommendation
4. Not cleared for participation
 - Reasons: _____
 - _____
 - _____
5. Other recommendations: _____

Name of physician (printed/typed): _____ Date of Examination: _____

Signature of physician: _____

I certify that the above student has been medically evaluated for participation in athletics and deemed:

1. CLEARED WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS
2. Cleared for LIMITED PARTICIPATION
 - Not cleared for (specific sports) _____
 - Cleared only for (specific sports) _____
3. Requires further evaluation before a final recommendation
4. Not cleared for participation
 - Reasons: _____
 - _____
 - _____
5. Other recommendations: _____

Name of physician (printed/typed): _____ Date of Examination: _____

Signature of physician: _____

5. Other recommendations: _____

Name of physician (printed/typed): _____ Date of Examination: _____

Signature of physician: _____

Resource Documents

PPE PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION

5th Edition

American Academy of Family Physicians

American Academy of Pediatrics

American College of Sports Medicine

American Medical Society for Sports Medicine

American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine

American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



AHA/ACC Scientific Statement

Eligibility and Disqualification Recommendations for Competitive Athletes With Cardiovascular Abnormalities: Task Force 2: Preparticipation Screening for Cardiovascular Disease in Competitive Athletes A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology

Barry J. Maron, MD, FACC, Chair; Benjamin D. Levine, MD, FAHA, FACC;
Reginald L. Washington, MD, FAHA; Aaron L. Baggish, MD, FACC;
Richard J. Kovacs, MD, FAHA, FACC; Martin S. Maron, MD, FACC; on behalf of the American Heart
Association Electrocardiography and Arrhythmias Committee of the Council on Clinical Cardiology,
Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young, Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing,
Council on Functional Genomics and Translational Biology, and the American College of Cardiology

The central purpose of preparticipation screening of trained competitive athletes is to identify or raise suspicion of those cardiovascular abnormalities and diseases that are potentially responsible for sudden unexpected death on the athletic field.¹⁻¹⁴ When such athletes are recognized, they are exposed to eligibility and disqualification decisions that become the responsibility of the practicing physician¹⁵⁻¹⁷ and are a subject of this document. There is general (although not universal)¹⁵ agreement with the principle that screening to detect important diseases and potentially prevent sudden death is justified and potentially beneficial.^{1,3-5,9,18}

There are many pathways and strategies by which competitive athletes with cardiovascular disease may be recognized: (1) comprehensive evaluation by a primary care physician; (2) systematic screening of families with known genetic diseases after diagnosis in a relative; (3) incidental

and fortuitous findings on clinical examination or imaging, detected during evaluation for another medical problem; (4) systematic screening of large populations, such as high school and college-aged athletes, for the purpose of determining eligibility for competitive sports, with or without diagnostic testing; and (5) symptoms associated or unassociated with sports. It is likely that a large number (or even most) athletes with cardiovascular disease come to clinical attention based on the circumstances described in items 1 through 3, rather than with formal preparticipation screening.

General Considerations

Currently, broad-based cardiovascular screening is practiced systematically in athletes at all levels of performance (not confined to the elite) in only 3 countries: in the United States, by personal/family history and physical examination (but without

The American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology make every effort to avoid any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise as a result of an outside relationship or a personal, professional, or business interest of a member of the writing panel. Specifically, all members of the writing group are required to complete and submit a Disclosure Questionnaire showing all such relationships that might be perceived as real or potential conflicts of interest.

The Preamble and other Task Force reports for these proceedings are available online at <http://circ.ahajournals.org> (Circulation. 2015;132:e256-e261; e262-e266; e273-e280; e281-e291; e292-e297; e298-e302; e303-e309; e310-e314; e315-e325; e326-e329; e330-e333; e334-e338; e339-e342; e343-e345; and e346-e349).

This statement was approved by the American Heart Association Science Advisory and Coordinating Committee on June 24, 2015, and the American Heart Association Executive Committee on July 22, 2015, and by the American College of Cardiology Board of Trustees and Executive Committee on June 3, 2015.

The American Heart Association requests that this document be cited as follows: Maron BJ, Levine BD, Washington RL, Baggish AL, Kovacs RJ, Maron MS; on behalf of the American Heart Association Electrocardiography and Arrhythmias Committee of the Council on Clinical Cardiology, Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young, Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing, Council on Functional Genomics and Translational Biology, and the American College of Cardiology. Eligibility and disqualification recommendations for competitive athletes with cardiovascular abnormalities: Task Force 2: preparticipation screening for cardiovascular disease in competitive athletes: a scientific statement from the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology. *Circulation*. 2015;132:e267-e272.

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(Circulation. 2015;132:e267-e272. DOI: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000000238.)

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DOI: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000000238

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Sports Classification

Increasing Static Component ↑	III. High (>50% MVC)	Bobsledding/Luge*†, Field events (throwing), Gymnastics*†, Martial arts*, Sailing, Sport climbing, Water skiing*†, Weight lifting*†, Windsurfing*†	Body building*†, Downhill skiing*†, Skateboarding*†, Snowboarding*†, Wrestling*	Boxing*, Canoeing/Kayaking, Cycling*†, Decathlon, Rowing, Speed skating*†, Trampoline*†
	II. Moderate (20-50% MVC)	Archery, Auto racing*†, Diving*†, Equestrian*†, Motorcycling*†	American football*, Field events (jumping), Figure skating*, Rodeoing*†, Rugby*, Running (sprint), Surfing*†, Synchronized swimming†	Basketball*, Ice hockey*, Cross-country skiing (skating technique), Lacrosse*, Running (middle distance), Swimming, Team handball
	I. Low (<20% MVC)	Billiards, Bowling, Cricket, Curling, Golf, Rifle	Baseball/Softball*, Fencing, Table tennis, Volleyball	Badminton, Cross-country skiing (classic technique), Field hockey*, Orienteering, Race walking, Racquetball/Squash, Running (long distance), Soccer*, Tennis
		A. Low (<40% Max O ₂)	B. Moderate (40-70% Max O ₂)	C. High (>70% Max O ₂)
		Increasing Dynamic Component →		



Zips DP, Link MS, Ackerman MJ, Kovacs RJ, Myerburg RJ, Estes NA 3rd.
 Eligibility and Disqualification Recommendations for Competitive Athletes With Cardiovascular Abnormalities:
 Task Force 9: Arrhythmias and Conduction Defects: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association
 and American College of Cardiology. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015 Dec 1;66(21):2412-23.

Contraindicated Sports

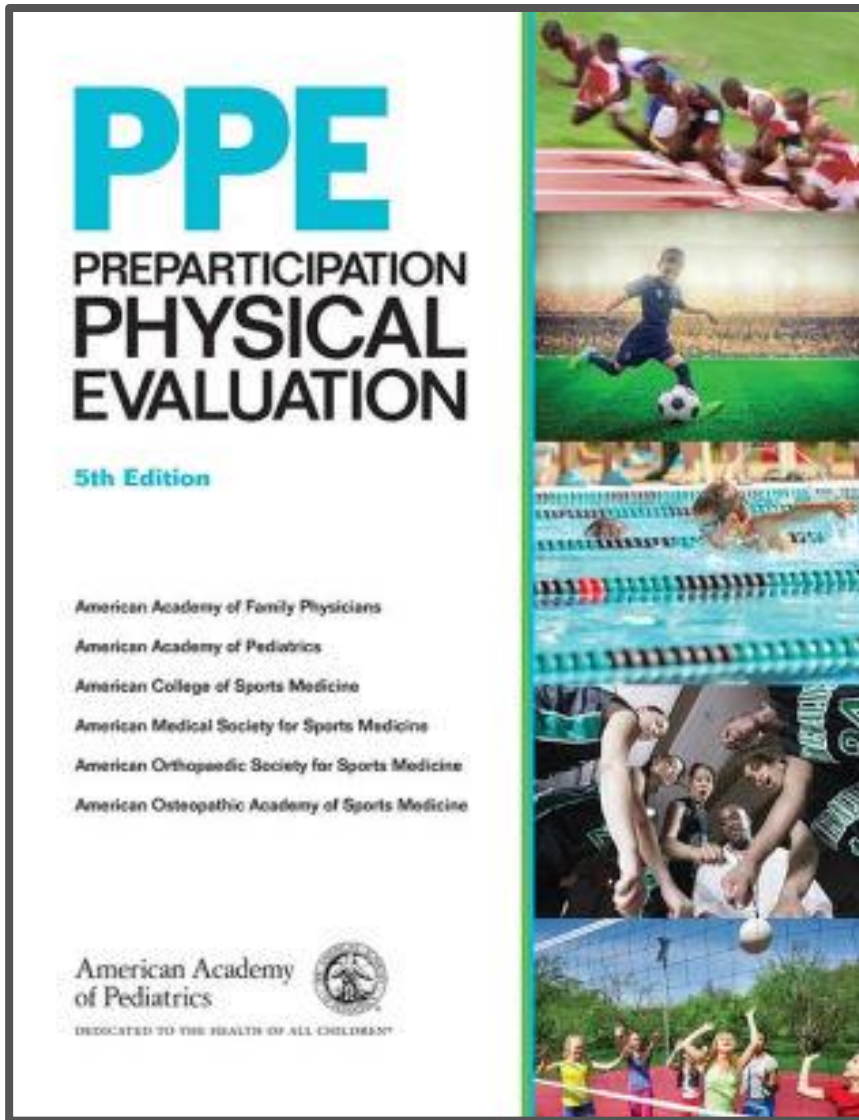


Table 1. Contraindications for Sports Participation

Active myocarditis or pericarditis
Acute enlargement of spleen or liver
Eating disorder in which athlete is not compliant with therapy and follow-up, or when there is evidence of diminished performance or potential injury because of the eating disorder
History of recent concussion and symptoms of postconcussion syndrome (no contact or collision sports)
Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
Long QT syndrome
Poorly controlled convulsive disorder (no archery, riflery, swimming, weight lifting or powerlifting, strength training, or sports involving heights)
Recurrent episodes of burning upper-extremity pain or weakness, or episodes of transient quadriplegia until stability of cervical spine can be assured (no contact or collision sports)
Severe hypertension until controlled by therapy (static resistance activities, such as weight lifting, are particularly contraindicated)
Sickle cell disease (no high-exertion, contact, or collision sports)
Suspected coronary artery disease until fully evaluated (patients with impaired resting left ventricular systolic function less than 50%, exercise-induced ventricular dysrhythmias, or exercise-induced ischemia on exercise stress testing are at greatest risk of sudden death)

Adapted with permission from Kurowski K, Chandran S. The preparticipation athletic evaluation. Am Fam Physician. 2000;61(9):2688.

Prudent Recommendations

■ Task Force 9 Arrhythmias



Recommendations

1. Athletes with exercise-induced syncope should be restricted from all competitive athletics until evaluated by a qualified medical professional (*Class I; Level of Evidence B*).
2. Athletes with syncope should be evaluated with a history, physical examination, ECG, and selective use of other diagnostic tests when there is suspicion of structural heart disease or primary electrical abnormalities that may predispose to recurrent syncope or sudden death (*Class I; Level of Evidence C*).
3. Athletes with syncope caused by structural heart disease or primary electrical disorders should be restricted from athletic activities according to the recommendations for their specific underlying cardiovascular condition (*Class I; Level of Evidence C*).
4. Athletes with neurally mediated syncope can resume all athletic activities once measures are demonstrated to prevent recurrent syncope (*Class I; Level of Evidence C*).

Zips DP, Link MS, Ackerman MJ, Kovacs RJ, Myerburg RJ, Estes NA 3rd.

Eligibility and Disqualification Recommendations for Competitive Athletes With Cardiovascular Abnormalities: Task Force 9: Arrhythmias and Conduction Defects: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2015 Dec 1;66(21):2412-23.

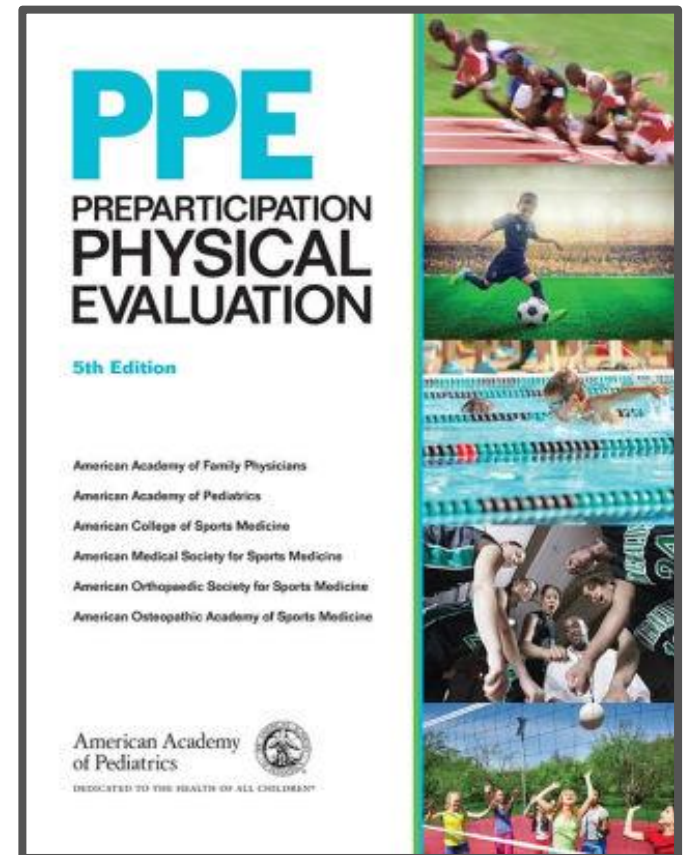
Hypertension in the Athlete

- Hypertension is the **most common** cardiovascular disorder detected during PPE screening.
- BP readings are altered by various factors that influence the patient, the techniques used and the accuracy of the sphygmomanometer.
- Clinical Observations:
 - Blood pressure during the PPE process is often completed by someone who does not regularly perform BPs.
 - False positive blood pressure readings are not uncommon.



Implications for the Family Physician

- **Treatment/Clearance:**
 - Similar to adults, any child athlete with **Stage 2 hypertension** should be restricted from participation until adequate control is obtained.
 - Children with identified **target organ disease** should have participation recommendations based upon the nature of their target organ disease.



SCT Guidance from ASH

- **Q: Can an individual with sickle cell trait participate in athletics/exercise?**
 - **A:** *Sickle cell trait should not be an impediment for participation in athletics or physical exercise. Maintaining good hydration and understanding how to avoid injuries can make exercise safer for ALL individuals, including those with sickle cell trait.*



SCT Guidance from ASH

- **What precautions should an individual with sickle cell trait take when participating in sports or exercise?**
 - **A:** *Individuals with sickle cell trait should consider the same precautions that can prevent injuries and exercise-related illnesses as people who do not have sickle cell trait. These include being mindful of heat and humidity, drinking adequate fluids, taking rest breaks as needed, and not exceeding their current level of fitness.*



Conclusion

- The Preparticipation Examination (PPE) **has yet to be validated** as decreasing morbidity and mortality.
- At present, however, **the standard of care** in the United States is a carefully performed **history and physical** examination.
- The conscientious examination requires a trained provider, an appropriate setting, and **sincere communication**.



Core Recommendations: American Family Physician Article

SORT: KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRACTICE

<i>Clinical recommendation</i>	<i>Evidence rating</i>	<i>References</i>
Preparticipation physical evaluations should occur approximately six weeks before activity to allow for further evaluation, treatment, or rehabilitation as needed.	C	4
All persons undergoing preparticipation physical evaluations should be questioned about exertional symptoms, the presence of a heart murmur, symptoms of Marfan syndrome, and family history of premature serious cardiac conditions or sudden death.	C	13, 16
Athletes with sustained systolic blood pressure of less than 160 mm Hg and diastolic blood pressure of less than 100 mm Hg should not be restricted from playing sports.	C	25
Athletes with well-controlled asthma who are asymptomatic at rest and with exertion can be safely cleared to play sports.	C	26
Screening blood and urine tests are not recommended for asymptomatic athletes.	C	37

A = consistent, good-quality patient-oriented evidence; B = inconsistent or limited-quality patient-oriented evidence; C = consensus, disease-oriented evidence, usual practice, expert opinion, or case series. For information about the SORT evidence rating system, go to <http://www.aafp.org/afpsort>.



Mirabelli MH, Devine MJ, Singh J, Mendoza M: The Preparticipation Sports Evaluation. Am Fam Physician. 2015 Sep 1;92(5):371-6.

Core Recommendations: American Family Physician Article

BEST PRACTICES IN PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

Recommendations from the Choosing Wisely Campaign

Recommendation	Sponsoring organization
Do not order annual electrocardiography or any other cardiac screening for asymptomatic, low-risk patients.	American Academy of Family Physicians and American College of Physicians

Source: For more information on the Choosing Wisely Campaign, see <https://www.choosingwisely.org>. For supporting citations and to search Choosing Wisely recommendations relevant to primary care, see <https://www.aafp.org/afp/recommendations/search.htm>.

SORT: KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRACTICE

Clinical recommendation	Evidence rating	Comments
The preparticipation physical evaluation should take place in the athlete's primary care medical home, during an office visit and not in a group setting. ^{4,12}	C	Expert opinion
The cardiovascular portion of the preparticipation physical evaluation should focus on identifying concerning findings such as pathologic heart murmurs or the stigmata of Marfan syndrome. ¹⁹	C	Expert opinion and consensus guidelines
If a condition is identified that may restrict an athlete's medical eligibility for participating in a certain sport, shared decision-making should occur, including discussion among the athlete, the athlete's family, and an interdisciplinary health care team about the risks and benefits of participation. It may be appropriate to consider an alternative activity in which the athlete could participate. ¹⁹	C	Expert opinion and consensus guidelines

A = consistent, good-quality patient-oriented evidence; B = inconsistent or limited-quality patient-oriented evidence; C = consensus, disease-oriented evidence, usual practice, expert opinion, or case series. For information about the SORT evidence rating system, go to <https://www.aafp.org/afpsort>.

MacDonald J, Schaefer M, Stumph J. The Preparticipation Physical Evaluation. *Am Fam Physician*. 2021 May 1;103(9):539-546.

Dr. Bernhardt Final Thoughts!

- The PPE is **only as good as the practitioner** who takes the time to review the questionnaire, ask follow-up questions, and try to determine the risks and benefits of participation in sport or exercise for the athlete.
- Consider **every patient who comes to clinic an athlete and our goal as providers is to promote exercise**. Therefore PPE should be performed on every patient in hopes of preventing any catastrophic event and guiding the patient/athlete in making exercise/sport a positive experience.
- **Final Comment:** would **focus on mental health screening** as main new portion of the PPE.



Dr. Roberts Final Thoughts!

- The PPE is **not an evidence based exam**
- Incorporating the PPE **into health prevention visits within the health care home is best practice**
- **History & PE should drive case finding studies**
- **Universal ECG screening is not recommended**
- Use **shared medical decision** making to determine medical eligibility for sports participation
- There are **many knowledge gaps** in the PPE
- **Coding the PPE may allow big data to inform PPE**



For Further Information

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