HOPATCONG HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FORM

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Step 1 – PLEASE COMPLETE
Bring this entire packet to your physician's office. Have physician fill out paperwork in its entirety. After you get your physical with your physician, please return all completed physical forms, within this packet to the main office in order to be processed by the school nurse and athletic office.

Step 2 – READ ONLY (DO NOT PRINT THESE FORMS)
Please read:

- NJSIAA Covid-19 Protocol
- NJSIAA Concussion Policy
- Hopatcong BOE Concussion Policy
- HHS Concussion Protocol
- Hopatcong BOE Random Drug Testing Policy
- NJSIAA Steroid Testing Policy
- Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes Information
- Sports-Related Eye Injuries Information
- Opioid Use and Misuse Information

By signing below, I acknowledge I have completed, read, and understand all information stated in Step 1 and Step 2 above.

Print Student/Athlete Name _____ Parent Signature _____

Print Parent Name _____ Date _____

Update: 11/2/20

Physical Date_____

Nurse_____
Guidance_____ #_____
AD_____

HOPATCONG HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FORM

ATHLETE'S NAME:_____ GRADE_____

ADDRESS:_____

DATE OF BIRTH:_____ PLACE OF BIRTH:_____

I hereby consent for my child to compete in _____ for the 20____ season.
SPORT

I give my permission for him / her to practice, play and travel as a member of this team. I realize that such activities involve the potential of injury. I acknowledge that even with the best coaching, the most advance protection equipment, and strict observation of rules, injuries can be severe.

I also realize that when medical attention is necessary, the Hopatcong Board of Education insurance may only pay for the portion not covered by my insurance company. ("In Excess Policy")

My insurance company is _____

Policy Number:_____

If, for some reason, I lose my insurance coverage, I will notify the school at once in writing of this loss of coverage.

My son / daughter has had the following medical problems. (Please mark with an X.)

- ☐ Recent history of fatigue, undue tiredness
- ☐ Athletic injuries (sprain, fracture, dislocation)
- ☐ Head injury (concussion, loss of consciousness, Frequent headaches)
- ☐ Neurological problems (seizures, fainting spells)
- ☐ Heart problems (murmur, high or low blood pressure, palpitations, frequent chest pains
- ☐ History of family member having a sudden death
- ☐ Allergies (hives, asthma, bee stings)
- ☐ Surgery
- ☐ Medication on regular basis and reason
- ☐ Medically advised not to participate in a specific sport
- ☐ Physician's care now and reason

Please comment more fully and give dates for any of the above marked with an X, also any hospitalizations, etc.

_____

_____

DATE:_____ SIGNATURE:_____
(Parent / Guardian)

HOME PHONE:_____ BUSINESS PHONE:_____

I understand that in order to participate in _____ I must:
SPORT

1. Have passed a comprehensive medical examination given by the school's physician or my family doctor.
2. Have on file with the School Nurse written proof of this medical examination.
3. Have read the Hopatcong Athletic Handbook and will abide by all rules and regulations explained in the handbook.
4. Be academically eligible in accordance with Hopatcong High School and State regulations (refer to Handbook).

_____ _____
Date Student's Signature

PHYSICIAN'S USE ONLY

I have completed a comprehensive physical on the above named student and found his / her physical condition such that he / she **MAY / MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS.**

_____ _____
Date Physician's Signature

ATTENTION PARENT/GUARDIAN: The preparticipation physical examination (page 3) must be completed by a health care provider who has completed the Student-Athlete Cardiac Assessment Professional Development Module.

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION
HISTORY FORM

(Note: This form is to be filled out by the patient and parent prior to seeing the physician. The physician should keep a copy of this form in the chart.)

Date of Exam _____

Name _____ Date of birth _____

Sex _____ Age _____ Grade _____ School _____ Sport(s) _____

Medicines and Allergies: Please list all of the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and supplements (herbal and nutritional) that you are currently taking

_____

_____

_____

Do you have any allergies? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please identify specific allergy below.
☐ Medicines ☐ Pollens ☐ Food ☐ Stinging Insects

Explain "Yes" answers below. Circle questions you don't know the answers to.

GENERAL QUESTIONS	Yes	No
1. Has a doctor ever denied or restricted your participation in sports for any reason?		
2. Do you have any ongoing medical conditions? If so, please identify below: ☐ Asthma ☐ Anemia ☐ Diabetes ☐ Infections Other: _____		
3. Have you ever spent the night in the hospital?		
4. Have you ever had surgery?		
HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU	**Yes**	**No**
5. Have you ever passed out or nearly passed out DURING or AFTER exercise?		
6. Have you ever had discomfort, pain, tightness, or pressure in your chest during exercise?		
7. Does your heart ever race or skip beats (irregular beats) during exercise?		
8. Has a doctor ever told you that you have any heart problems? If so, check all that apply: ☐ High blood pressure ☐ A heart murmur ☐ High cholesterol ☐ A heart infection ☐ Kawasaki disease Other: _____		
9. Has a doctor ever ordered a test for your heart? (For example, ECG/EKG, echocardiogram)		
10. Do you get lightheaded or feel more short of breath than expected during exercise?		
11. Have you ever had an unexplained seizure?		
12. Do you get more tired or short of breath more quickly than your friends during exercise?		
HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY	**Yes**	**No**
13. Has any family member or relative died of heart problems or had an unexpected or unexplained sudden death before age 50 (including drowning, unexplained car accident, or sudden infant death syndrome)?		
14. Does anyone in your family have hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Marfan syndrome, arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy, long QT syndrome, short QT syndrome, Brugada syndrome, or catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia?		
15. Does anyone in your family have a heart problem, pacemaker, or implanted defibrillator?		
16. Has anyone in your family had unexplained fainting, unexplained seizures, or near drowning?		
BONE AND JOINT QUESTIONS	**Yes**	**No**
17. Have you ever had an injury to a bone, muscle, ligament, or tendon that caused you to miss a practice or a game?		
18. Have you ever had any broken or fractured bones or dislocated joints?		
19. Have you ever had an injury that required x-rays, MRI, CT scan, injections, therapy, a brace, a cast, or crutches?		
20. Have you ever had a stress fracture?		
21. Have you ever been told that you have or have you had an x-ray for neck instability or atlantoaxial instability? (Down syndrome or dwarfism)		
22. Do you regularly use a brace, orthotics, or other assistive device?		
23. Do you have a bone, muscle, or joint injury that bothers you?		
24. Do any of your joints become painful, swollen, feel warm, or look red?		
25. Do you have any history of juvenile arthritis or connective tissue disease?		

MEDICAL QUESTIONS	Yes	No
26. Do you cough, wheeze, or have difficulty breathing during or after exercise?		
27. Have you ever used an inhaler or taken asthma medicine?		
28. Is there anyone in your family who has asthma?		
29. Were you born without or are you missing a kidney, an eye, a testicle (males), your spleen, or any other organ?		
30. Do you have groin pain or a painful bulge or hernia in the groin area?		
31. Have you had infectious mononucleosis (mono) within the last month?		
32. Do you have any rashes, pressure sores, or other skin problems?		
33. Have you had a herpes or MRSA skin infection?		
34. Have you ever had a head injury or concussion?		
35. Have you ever had a hit or blow to the head that caused confusion, prolonged headache, or memory problems?		
36. Do you have a history of seizure disorder?		
37. Do you have headaches with exercise?		
38. Have you ever had numbness, tingling, or weakness in your arms or legs after being hit or falling?		
39. Have you ever been unable to move your arms or legs after being hit or falling?		
40. Have you ever become ill while exercising in the heat?		
41. Do you get frequent muscle cramps when exercising?		
42. Do you or someone in your family have sickle cell trait or disease?		
43. Have you had any problems with your eyes or vision?		
44. Have you had any eye injuries?		
45. Do you wear glasses or contact lenses?		
46. Do you wear protective eyewear, such as goggles or a face shield?		
47. Do you worry about your weight?		
48. Are you trying to or has anyone recommended that you gain or lose weight?		
49. Are you on a special diet or do you avoid certain types of foods?		
50. Have you ever had an eating disorder?		
51. Do you have any concerns that you would like to discuss with a doctor?		
FEMALES ONLY		
52. Have you ever had a menstrual period?		
53. How old were you when you had your first menstrual period?		
54. How many periods have you had in the last 12 months?		

Explain "yes" answers here

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the above questions are complete and correct.

Signature of athlete _____ Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

HE0503 9-2681/0410

New Jersey Department of Education 2014; Pursuant to P.L.2013, c.71

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION

THE ATHLETE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: SUPPLEMENTAL HISTORY FORM

Date of Exam _____

Name _____ Date of birth _____

Sex _____ Age _____ Grade _____ School _____ Sport(s) _____

1. Type of disability		
2. Date of disability		
3. Classification (if available)		
4. Cause of disability (birth, disease, accident/trauma, other)		
5. List the sports you are interested in playing		
	Yes	**No**
6. Do you regularly use a brace, assistive device, or prosthetic?		
7. Do you use any special brace or assistive device for sports?		
8. Do you have any rashes, pressure sores, or any other skin problems?		
9. Do you have a hearing loss? Do you use a hearing aid?		
10. Do you have a visual impairment?		
11. Do you use any special devices for bowel or bladder function?		
12. Do you have burning or discomfort when urinating?		
13. Have you had autonomic dysreflexia?		
14. Have you ever been diagnosed with a heat-related (hyperthermia) or cold-related (hypothermia) illness?		
15. Do you have muscle spasticity?		
16. Do you have frequent seizures that cannot be controlled by medication?		

Explain "yes" answers here

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please indicate if you have ever had any of the following.

	Yes	**No**
Atlantoaxial instability		
X-ray evaluation for atlantoaxial instability		
Dislocated joints (more than one)		
Easy bleeding		
Enlarged spleen		
Hepatitis		
Osteopenia or osteoporosis		
Difficulty controlling bowel		
Difficulty controlling bladder		
Numbness or tingling in arms or hands		
Numbness or tingling in legs or feet		
Weakness in arms or hands		
Weakness in legs or feet		
Recent change in coordination		
Recent change in ability to walk		
Spina bifida		
Latex allergy		

Explain "yes" answers here

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the above questions are complete and correct.

Signature of athlete _____ Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

New Jersey Department of Education 2014; Pursuant to P.L.2013, c.71

NOTE: The preparticiaption physical examination must be conducted by a health care provider who 1) is a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant; and 2) completed the Student-Athlete Cardiac Assessment Professional Development Module.

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION
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?**
   - **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?**
2. **Consider reviewing questions on cardiovascular symptoms (questions 5–14).**

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

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

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for _____

_____

☐ Not cleared

- ☐ Pending further evaluation
- ☐ For any sports
- ☐ For certain sports _____

Reason _____

Recommendations _____

_____

I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, a physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).

Name of physician, advanced practice nurse (APN), physician assistant (PA) (print/type)_____ Date of exam _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Signature of physician, APN, PA _____

HE0503
9-2681/0410
New Jersey Department of Education 2014; Pursuant to P.L.2013, c.71

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION
CLEARANCE FORM

Name _____ Sex ☐ M ☐ F Age _____ Date of birth _____

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for _____

_____

☐ Not cleared

- ☐ Pending further evaluation
- ☐ For any sports
- ☐ For certain sports _____

Reason _____

Recommendations _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Allergies _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Other information _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

HCP OFFICE STAMP

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN:

Reviewed on _____
(Date)

Approved _____ Not Approved _____

Signature: _____

I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, the physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).

Name of physician, advanced practice nurse (APN), physician assistant (PA) _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Signature of physician, APN, PA _____

Completed Cardiac Assessment Professional Development Module

Date _____ Signature _____

New Jersey Department of Education 2014; Pursuant to P.L.2013, c.71

New Jersey Department of Education
Health History Update Questionnaire

Name of School: _____

To participate on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad, each student whose physical examination was completed more than 90 days prior to the first day of official practice shall provide a health history update questionnaire completed and signed by the student's parent or guardian.

Student: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Date of Last Physical Examination: _____ Sport: _____

Since the last pre-participation physical examination, has your son/daughter:

1. Been medically advised not to participate in a sport? Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, describe in detail:
2. Sustained a concussion, been unconscious or lost memory from a blow to the head? Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, explain in detail:
3. Broken a bone or sprained/strained/dislocated any muscle or joints? Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, describe in detail.
4. Fainted or "blacked out?" Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, was this during or immediately after exercise?
5. Experienced chest pains, shortness of breath or "racing heart?" Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, explain
6. Has there been a recent history of fatigue and unusual tiredness? Yes ☐ No ☐
7. Been hospitalized or had to go to the emergency room? Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, explain in detail
8. Since the last physical examination, has there been a sudden death in the family or has any member of the family under age 50 had a heart attack or "heart trouble?" Yes ☐ No ☐
9. Started or stopped taking any over-the-counter or prescribed medications? Yes ☐ No ☐
10. Been diagnosed with Coronavirus (COVID-19)? Yes ☐ No ☐

    If diagnosed with Coronavirus (COVID-19), was your son/daughter symptomatic? Yes ☐ No ☐

    If diagnosed with Coronavirus (COVID-19), was your son/daughter hospitalized? Yes ☐ No ☐
11. Has any member of the student-athlete's household been diagnosed with Coronavirus (COVID-19)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Date: _____ Signature of parent/guardian: _____

Please Return Completed Form to the School Nurse's Office

6/2020

HOPATCONG HIGH SCHOOL
Hopatcong, New Jersey

TO: Parents/Guardians of Students Representing Hopatcong High School in Athletics/Activity Programs

It is exceedingly difficult to obtain medical services for students injured when competing without first obtaining written parental/guardian consent. So that proper emergency assistance may be provided, we ask that you review the following statement, sign it, and return it to the faculty member in charge. It should be understood that if this form is not signed by the parent/guardian, in the event medical attention/hospitalization is necessary, the faculty member or designee shall attempt to locate the parent/guardian and, absent an emergency, treatment may not be rendered.

I hereby authorize the Hopatcong Borough School District and its faculty members in charge of my child named below, to obtain all necessary medical care for my child, and I hereby authorize my licensed physician and/or medical personnel to render all necessary medical treatment to my child.

_____ _____ _____
(Student's Name) (Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

Family Doctor _____

Doctor's Phone # _____

Parent's Phone # _____ Alternate # _____

This student's allergies, medical problems, or medications are:

This is a voluntary form. The parent/guardian does not have to complete this form in order for the student to participate.

Hopatcong Borough Schools
2A Windsor Avenue, PO Box 1029
Hopatcong, NJ 07843

973-398-8800
973-398-1961 (FAX)
www.hopatcongschools.org

Consent to Participate in Random Testing for Student Alcohol or Other Drug Use Program

_____ _____
(Student's Name – Please Print) (Grade Level)

We hereby consent to permit the above-named student to participate in the Random Testing for Student Alcohol or Other Drug Use Program as approved by the Hopatcong School District. In issuing consent, we permit the student above-named to undergo random urinalysis and/or saliva testing for the presence of alcohol or other drugs as outlined in District policy.

We understand that a qualified vendor will oversee the collection process.

We understand that any urine and/or saliva will be sent only to a certified laboratory for testing and that the samples will be coded to provide confidentiality.

We hereby give consent to the vendor selected by the Hopatcong School District to perform urinalysis and/or saliva testing for the presence of alcohol or other drugs as named in District policy.

We further give permission to the vendor selected by the Hopatcong School District to release all results of these tests to the Medical Review Officer working for the vendor. We understand these results will be forwarded to the Building Principal and will also be made available to us.

We understand that this consent agreement will be in effect for a period of twelve months from the date listed below.

We understand that the analysis of the specimen conducted will include the following substances and be based on the following levels:

SUBSTANCE	SCREEN/INITIAL LEVEL	CONFIRMATION LEVEL
AMPHETAMINES (CLASS)	500 ng/ml	250 ng/ml
ECSTASY SCREEN	500 ng/ml	250 ng/ml
COCAINE METABOLITES	150 ng/ml	100 ng/ml
MARIJUANA METABOLITE	20 ng/ml	15 ng/ml
OPIATES	300 ng/ml	300 ng/ml
PCP	25 ng/ml	25 ng/ml
BARBITURATES	300 ng/ml	300 ng/ml
BENZODIAZEPINES	300 ng/ml	300 ng/ml
METHADONE	300 ng/ml	300 ng/ml
PROPOXYPHENE	300 ng/ml	300 ng/ml
OXYCODONE/OXYMORPHONE	100 ng/ml	100 ng/ml
ALCOHOL, URINE	0.02 ng/ml	0.02 ng/ml

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Sudden Cardiac Death Pamphlet

Sign-Off Sheet

Name of School District: _____

Name of Local School: _____

I/We acknowledge that we received and reviewed the Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes pamphlet.

Student Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian
Signature: _____

Date: _____

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS
HOPATCONG HIGH SCHOOL
PO BOX 1029
HOPATCONG, NEW JERSEY 07843
(973) 398-8803

STEPHANIE MARTINEZ
ACTING PRINCIPAL

Use and Misuse of Opioid Drugs Fact Sheet

Student-Athlete and Parent/Guardian Sign-Off

In accordance with *N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-41.10, public school districts, approved private schools for students with disabilities, and nonpublic schools participating in an interscholastic sports program must distribute this *Opioid Use and Misuse Educational Fact Sheet* to all student-athletes and cheerleaders. In addition, schools and districts must obtain a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the fact sheet from each student-athlete and cheerleader, and for students under age 18, the parent or guardian must also sign.

This sign-off sheet is due to the Main Office prior to the first official practice session of the athletic season and annually thereafter prior to the student-athlete's or cheerleader's first official practice of the school year.

Name of School: **Hopatcong High School**

Name of School District (if applicable): **Hopatcong Borough Schools**

I/We acknowledge that we received and reviewed the Educational Fact Sheet on the Use and Misuse of Opioid Drugs.

Student Signature: _____

Sport: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: (also needed if student is under age 18): _____

Date: _____

OPIOID USE AND MISUSE EDUCATIONAL FACT SHEET

Keeping Student-Athletes Safe

School athletics can serve an integral role in students' development. In addition to providing healthy forms of exercise, school athletics foster friendships and camaraderie, promote sportsmanship and fair play, and instill the value of competition.

Unfortunately, sports activities may also lead to injury and, in rare cases, result in pain that is severe or long-lasting enough to require a prescription opioid painkiller.[1] It is important to understand that overdoses from opioids are on the rise and are killing Americans of all ages and backgrounds. Families and communities across the country are coping with the health, emotional and economic effects of this epidemic.[2]

This educational fact sheet, created by the New Jersey Department of Education as required by state law (*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-41.10), provides information concerning the use and misuse of opioid drugs in the event that a health care provider prescribes a student-athlete or cheerleader an opioid for a sports-related injury. Student-athletes and cheerleaders participating in an interscholastic sports program (and their parent or guardian, if the student is under age 18) must provide their school district written acknowledgment of their receipt of this fact sheet.

How Do Athletes Obtain Opioids?

In some cases, student-athletes are prescribed these medications. According to research, about a third of young people studied obtained pills from their own previous prescriptions (i.e., an unfinished prescription used outside of a physician's supervision), and 83 percent of adolescents had unsupervised access to their prescription medications.[3] It is important for parents to understand the possible hazard of having unsecured prescription medications in their households. Parents should also understand the importance of proper storage and disposal of medications, even if they believe their child would not engage in non-medical use or diversion of prescription medications.

What Are Signs of Opioid Use?

According to the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, 12 percent of male athletes and 8 percent of female athletes had used prescription opioids in the 12-month period studied.[3] In the early stages of abuse, the athlete may exhibit unprovoked nausea and/or vomiting. However, as he or she develops a tolerance to the drug, those signs will diminish. Constipation is not uncommon, but may not be reported. One of the most significant indications of a possible opioid addiction is an athlete's decrease in academic or athletic performance, or a lack of interest in his or her sport. If these warning signs are noticed, best practices call for the student to be referred to the appropriate professional for screening,[4] such as provided through an evidence-based practice to identify problematic use, abuse and dependence on illicit drugs (e.g., Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)) offered through the New Jersey Department of Health.

What Are Some Ways Opioid Use and Misuse Can Be Prevented?

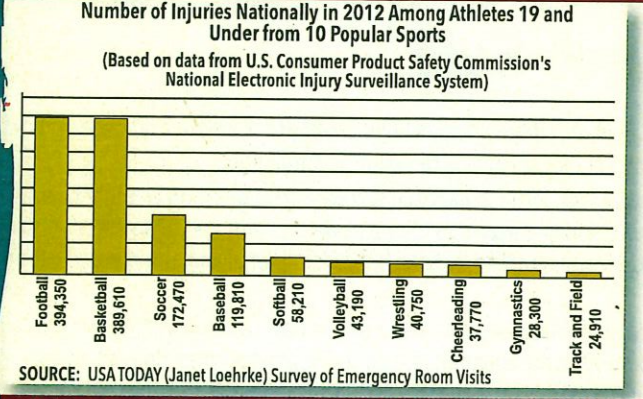
According to NJSIAA Sports Medical Advisory Committee chair, John P. Kripsak, D.O., "Studies indicate that about 80 percent of heroin users started out by abusing narcotic painkillers."

According to the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Sports Medical Advisory Committee chair, John P. Kripsak, D.O., "Studies indicate that about 80 percent of heroin users started out by abusing narcotic painkillers."

The Sports Medical Advisory Committee, which includes representatives of NJSIAA member schools as well as experts in the field of healthcare and medicine, recommends the following:

- **The pain from most sports-related injuries can be managed with non-narcotic medications such as acetaminophen, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications like ibuprofen, naproxen or aspirin. Read the label carefully and always take the recommended dose, or follow your doctor's instructions. More is not necessarily better when taking an over-the-counter (OTC) pain medication, and it can lead to dangerous side effects.[4]**
- **Ice therapy can be utilized appropriately as an anesthetic.**
- **Always discuss with your physician exactly what is being prescribed for pain and request to avoid narcotics.**
- **In extreme cases, such as severe trauma or post-surgical pain, opioid pain medication should not be prescribed for more than five days at a time;**
- **Parents or guardians should always control the dispensing of pain medications and keep them in a safe, non-accessible location; and**
- **Unused medications should be disposed of immediately upon cessation of use. Ask your pharmacist about drop-off locations or home disposal kits like Deterra or Medsaway.**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
In consultation with
STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
NJSIAA SPORTS MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Karan Chauhan
Parsippany Hills High School,
Permanent Student Representative
New Jersey State Board of Education



Even With Proper Training and Prevention, Sports Injuries May Occur

There are two kinds of sports injuries. Acute injuries happen suddenly, such as a sprained ankle or strained back. Chronic injuries may happen after someone plays a sport or exercises over a long period of time, even when applying overuse-preventative techniques.[5]

Athletes should be encouraged to speak up about injuries, coaches should be supported in injury-prevention decisions, and parents and young athletes are encouraged to become better educated about sports safety.[6]

What Are Some Ways to Reduce the Risk of Injury?[7]

Half of all sports medicine injuries in children and teens are from overuse. An overuse injury is damage to a bone, muscle, ligament, or tendon caused by repetitive stress without allowing time for the body to heal. Children and teens are at increased risk for overuse injuries because growing bones are less resilient to stress. Also, young athletes may not know that certain symptoms are signs of overuse.

The best way to deal with sports injuries is to keep them from happening in the first place. Here are some recommendations to consider:

PREPARE Obtain the preparticipation physical evaluation prior to participation on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad.

PLAY SMART Try a variety of sports and consider specializing in one sport before late adolescence to help avoid overuse injuries.

TRAINING Increase weekly training time, mileage or repetitions no more than 10 percent per week. For example, if running 10 miles one week, increase to 11 miles the following week. Athletes should also cross-train and perform sport-specific drills in different ways, such as running in a swimming pool instead of only running on the road.

PROPER EQUIPMENT Wear appropriate and properly fitted protective equipment such as pads (neck, shoulder, elbow, chest, knee, and shin), helmets, mouthpieces, face guards, protective cups, and eyewear. Do not assume that protective gear will prevent all injuries while performing more dangerous or risky activities.

CONDITIONING Maintain a good fitness level during the season and offseason. Also important are proper warm-up and cooldown exercises.

ADEQUATE HYDRATION Keep the body hydrated to help the heart more easily pump blood to muscles, which helps muscles work efficiently.

REST UP Take at least one day off per week from organized activity to recover physically and mentally. Athletes should take a combined three months off per year from a specific sport (may be divided throughout the year in one-month increments). Athletes may remain physically active during rest periods through alternative low-stress activities such as stretching, yoga or walking.

Resources for Parents and Students on Preventing Substance Misuse and Abuse

The following list provides some examples of resources:

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence – NJ promotes addiction treatment and recovery.
New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services has a mission to decrease the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs by supporting the development of a comprehensive network of prevention, intervention and treatment services in New Jersey.
New Jersey Prevention Network includes a parent's quiz on the effects of opioids.
Operation Prevention Parent Toolkit is designed to help parents learn more about the opioid epidemic, recognize warning signs, and open lines of communication with their children and those in the community.
Parent to Parent NJ is a grassroots coalition for families and children struggling with alcohol and drug addiction.
Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey is New Jersey's anti-drug alliance created to localize and strengthen drug-prevention media efforts to prevent unlawful drug use, especially among young people.
ReachNJ provides information for parents and families, including addiction and treatment stories.
The Science of Addiction: The Stories of Teens shares common misconceptions about opioids through the voices of teens.
Youth IMPACTing NJ is made up of youth representatives from coalitions across the state of New Jersey who have been impacting their communities and peers by spreading the word about the dangers of underage drinking, marijuana use, and other substance misuse.

References

[1] Massachusetts Technical Assistance Partnership for Prevention
[2] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
[3] New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Sports Medical Advisory Committee (SMAC)
[4] Athletic Management, David Csillan, athletic trainer, Ewing High School, NJSIAA SMAC
[5] National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
[6] USA TODAY
[7] American Academy of Pediatrics

An online version of this fact sheet is available on the New Jersey Department of Education's Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use webpage.
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