



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

**IOC “No-Needle” Policy**  
**Explanatory note**  
**Games of the XXX Olympiad in London, 2012**

- **Regular self injection of a prohibited substance (eg insulin for diabetes):**  
If athletes have an approved TUE, no declaration of injections is needed.
- **Injection by medical staff working for the organising committee (LOCOG):**  
As long as the details of the treatment are properly recorded on the Atos electronic medical record, then no declaration is needed.
- **Injection before arrival at the Olympic Games (from 16<sup>th</sup> July):**  
These injections should be declared and the form faxed or scanned and emailed to the IOC Medical director by noon on the day following the injection (local time)
- **Medical justification of injections:**  
The aim of the policy is to ensure that all injections are performed by medical staff for a medical reason. Thus if there is reasonable medical justification of the injection (it is accepted as normal medical practice by a number of other medical colleagues and peers) then this would normally be considered as justified. Declaration forms **may** be reviewed by the IOC Medical Commission and if there is concern the responsible doctor would be asked to meet with a panel of physicians, members of the IOC Medical Commission to discuss the rationale of the treatment.  
This may result in a caution not to continue with these injections.  
If the issue is recurrent or considered very out of line with well established good medical practice, the issue could also be referred to the IOC Executive Board by the Chairman of the IOC Medical Commission.
- **International federation or NOC rules:**  
If IF or NOC rules are in place then these would normally apply (eg no competition within 48 hours of injection), and as stated in the policy any conflict would be resolved by the IOC Executive Board.
- **Policing the policy:**  
Any infringements will be investigated and acted upon.

Lausanne, 20 June 2012

Medical and Scientific Department