

Narcotics

Narcotics are substances that mask the effects of pain. They may also produce sensations of euphoria, invincibility and illusions of athletic prowess beyond the athlete's ability.

Examples of narcotics include heroin, morphine and pethidine.

Side Effects

Athletes may use narcotics to stop the pain resulting from an injury. This can be dangerous as these substances merely hide the pain. An athlete who continues to exercise the injured part risks further damage to that part.

Narcotics also have other effects on athletes such as a loss of balance and coordination, reduced ability to concentrate, sleepiness, nausea and vomiting.

Prolonged use may also produce physical dependence, leading to addiction.

Status in Sport

All narcotics are prohibited In-competition only under the World Anti-Doping Code 2018 Prohibited List. This includes, buprenorphine, dextromoramide, diamorphine (heroin), fentanyl and its derivatives, hydromorphone, methadone, morphine, oxycodone, oxymorphone, pentazocine and pethidine. (effective 01/01/2018).

Monitoring Program

The following substances included in the 2018 Monitoring Program;

- codeine (In-Competition only)
- hydrocodone (In-Competition only)
- tramadol (In-Competition only)

While the above are not on the Prohibited List, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) wishes to monitor use in order to detect patterns of misuse in sport.



Department of
**Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries**