Introduction

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) was established in 1999 as a joint response between the Olympic Movement and public authorities to combat doping in sport. WADA’s mission is to promote, coordinate and monitor on an international basis the fight against doping in all its forms.

Athlete testing, or doping control, is an essential programme in both promoting and protecting doping-free sport.

Worldwide doping controls are carried out in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code and the International Standard for Testing, developed by WADA in consultation with its stakeholders.

Doping Control Officers (DCOs) or Chaperones from the responsible Anti-Doping Organisation (ADO) will supervise doping control. In general, this notification is done in person. The official identification and the authority under which the sample collection is to be conducted are shown to the athlete.

The selection of athletes is based on the requirements of the responsible Anti-Doping Organisation (ADO). The selection may occur in three ways: random, based on established criteria (e.g. finishing position), or targeted.

The DCO or Chaperone will notify the athlete of his or her selection for doping control. In general, this notification is done in person. The official identification and the authority under which the sample collection is to be conducted are shown to the athlete.

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The DCO shall ensure that an athlete in full view shall provide no less than 90ml of urine. If the amount of urine does not meet the minimum requirements, the athlete will proceed with the Partial Sample Process (outlined at the end of this leaflet).

For a minor or an athlete with a disability, a third party may be notified as well.
Selection of the Sample Collection Kit

If the athlete has provided the required volume of urine, the athlete will be given a choice of individually sealed sample collection kits, from which to choose one. The athlete verifies that the equipment is intact and has not been tampered with. The athlete will open the kit and confirm that the sample code numbers on the bottles, the lids and the container all match.

Splitting the Sample

The athlete splits the sample, pouring the urine him or herself, unless assistance is required due to an athlete’s disability.

The athlete pours the required volume of urine into the ‘B’ bottle. Then the remaining urine is poured into the ‘A’ bottle. The athlete will be asked to leave a small amount of urine in the collection vessel so the Doping Control Officer can measure the specific gravity of the sample according to the relevant laboratory guidelines.

Sealing the Samples

The athlete seals the ‘A’ and ‘B’ bottles. The athlete representative and the doping control officer should verify that the bottles are sealed properly.

Measuring Specific Gravity

The DCO measures the specific gravity using the residual urine left in the collection vessel. The values are recorded on the doping control form. If the sample does not meet the specific gravity requirements, the athlete may be asked to provide additional samples as required by the Anti-Doping Organization.

Completion of Doping Control Form

The athlete is asked to provide information about any prescription/non-prescription medications or supplements he or she has taken recently. These medications are recorded on the doping control form. The athlete has the right to note comments and concerns regarding the conduct of the doping control session. The athlete should confirm that all of the information on the doping control form is correct, including the sample code number.

The person who witnessed the passing of the sample, the athlete representative, the Doping Control Officer and the athlete will sign the doping control form at the end of the sample collection process.

The athlete is given a copy of the doping control form. The laboratory copy of the doping control form does not contain any information that could identify the athlete.

The Laboratory Process

Samples are packaged for shipping to ensure that the security of the sample is tracked. The samples are sent to a WADA-accredited laboratory. The laboratory will inspect the samples upon their arrival to ensure there is no evidence of tampering.

The WADA-accredited laboratory will adhere to the International Standard for Laboratories when processing a sample, ensuring the chain of custody is maintained at all times.

The ‘A’ sample will be analyzed for substances on the Prohibited List. The ‘B’ sample is securely stored at the laboratory and may be used to confirm an Adverse Analytical Finding from the ‘A’ sample.

The laboratory will report the results of the sample analysis to the responsible Anti-Doping Organization and WADA.

Final Notes

The information and the materials shown in this booklet are meant to serve as a guide to the urine sample collection process; it does not reflect an opinion on the type of equipment to be used.

Testing worldwide should follow the principles of these guidelines, although there may be slight variations in the procedures adopted by different anti-doping organizations, which will not affect the integrity of the process.

For further information, please contact your National Anti-Doping Organization, or International or National Federation. You may also visit our Web site at www.wada-ama.org.