

QAS Needle Policy



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QAS Needle Policy

Revision History

Version	Reviewed by	Changes made
1.0	QAS Head of Health – Kate Watson <u>Original Acknowledgment</u> Dr David Hughes – Chief Medical Officer Australian Institute of Sport AIS No Needle Policy (2018)	
2.0	August 2023 QAS Chief Medical Officer - Dr Sharon Stay	
3.0	October 2024 QAS Chief Medical Officer – Dr Neil Stevenson QAS Head of Health – Kate Watson	Reviewed by QAS Chief Medical Officer – Dr Neil Stevenson QAS Head of Health – Kate Watson No amendments made

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) personnel, athletes or other individuals using QAS facilities may only possess injection equipment or administer injections when authorised to do so.

This policy applies to all QAS personnel, including medical practitioners, as well as staff of sporting organisations including medical practitioners, athletes and any other individuals authorised to enter or use QAS facilities.

1.0 Background

The QAS is supportive of Sport Integrity Australia's fight against doping and other unethical behavior in sport.

By prohibiting the possession of injection equipment and the process of self-injection by unauthorised persons, this policy will reduce the risk of doping or other unethical behavior at QAS facilities.

The QAS Needles policy sits aside the QAS Anti-Doping Policy to ensure compliance with organisational and individual responsibilities.

Because some unethical practices involve the injection of banned substances or inappropriate injections of substances, persons seen in possession of or using injection equipment on QAS premises without prior consent could be considered in breach of the QAS Anti-Doping Policy and may risk being reported to Sport Integrity Australia.

2.0 Policy

2.1 Obligations applicable to all individuals

1. Any individual with a documented medical condition (including, but not limited to: diabetes, known anaphylaxis) requiring the possession of injection equipment must notify the QAS Chief Medical Officer of their condition, to facilitate listing on the QAS Self-Injection Register contained within the Athlete Management System (AMS).
2. Individuals must not be in possession of hypodermic needles or other injection equipment, unless:
 - (a) the individual is a QAS medical practitioner or other registered medical practitioner; or
 - (b) the individual's possession has been authorised by a QAS medical practitioner or other registered medical practitioner and the individual has requested listing on the QAS Self-Injection Register.
3. Individuals must not inject any substance into themselves, or any another person, unless authorised to do so by a QAS medical practitioner or other registered medical practitioner for the treatment of a documented medical condition.
4. Individuals must not allow any person other than a QAS medical practitioner or other registered medical practitioner to administer an injection to them, unless they have applied for listing on the QAS Self-Injection Register, and their medical condition is known and injection purpose approved by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO).

2.2 Obligations applicable to medical practitioners

5. The Head of Performance Health must take all appropriate steps to ensure that access to injectable materials is restricted to QAS medical practitioners or other registered medical practitioners and that medicines are safely stored in accordance with the *Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021 (Qld)*.
6. QAS Medical practitioners and visiting medical practitioners must only perform injections:
 - (a) if it is medically required for vaccination purposes; or
 - (b) if it is medically required for treatment of a documented medical condition; or
 - (c) with prior approval from the QAS Research Unit (SPIKE) for research purposes.
7. The Chief Medical Officer must keep a record of personnel and athletes approved to carry injection materials and self-inject on QAS premises (QAS Self-Injection Register) within AMS.

2.3 Obligations applicable to Performance Support Staff

QAS Performance Support personnel must ensure that injections are not performed as part of a supplementation or performance improvement program within their organisation or supported sports.

QAS Sports Science personnel are permitted to use needles to enable collection of bloods for research purposes and full records are kept to ensure compliance.

3.0 References

QAS Anti-Doping Policy

Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021 (Qld) Subordinate Legislation 2021 No. 140