Prevalence of stimulants as doping agents in Brazil

Instituto de Química, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Abstract

The prevalence of stimulant doping agent used among Brazilian athletes is presented. The high prevalence of stimulants doping findings in Brazil can be attributed to different reasons including “self-administration” and “body-shape” cultures and use of nutritional supplements. Also recreational drugs, such as cocaine presents a relatively high prevalence compared to the international statistics. The issue of self-medication is observed for anorexic agents. They are constantly present in the doping findings reported in Brazil. The number of the cases for isometheptene in Brazil also is highlighted (78% of the cases in the world were reported by the Brazil Doping Control Laboratory). From this total, in 50% of the cases, the athletes reported the use of Neosaldina® in the appropriated doping control form. The level of disinformation about the doping control system among the participants of the Brazilian sport scenario is preoccupant. The number of cases involving over-the-counter drugs and food supplements could be understood as a reflex of a lack of “anti-doping culture”. Certainly, the lack of financial support in several sport modalities hampers the development of preventive actions such as informative campaigns. This work was presented as a contribution to the Manfred Donike Workshop.

The full considerations about the prevalence of stimulants in Brazil are described elsewhere in: