

**Perth Amboy High School
Athletic Physical**

Name _____ Birthday _____

ID # _____ Grade _____ Campus _____

Address _____

Sport/Sports _____

Checklist:

Item	Parent Checklist	Nurse Checklist
Physical Examination Form (with signature)		
Clearance Form (with Stamp)		
Preparticipation Physical Evaluation History Form (Signed by parents and athlete)		
Athlete with special needs supplemental history form (for anyone with a disability)		
Opioid use and misuse Fact Sheet and Sign Off Sheet (signed by parent and athlete)		
Steroid Testing Policy (signed by parent and athlete)		
Concussion Awareness Form (signed by parent and athlete)		
Sudden Cardiac Death Pamphlet (Signed by parent and athlete)		

**Perth Amboy Public Schools
Sports Physicals
Information Fact Sheet
For Parents/Guardians**

Prior to participation on a school-sponsored athletic team, each student in grades 6 through 12 must present a completed pre-participation physical, Physical and Cardiac Information form to the School Nurse. It is very important that these forms be completed and returned for processing to avoid delay in your child/children ability to be able to participate in his/her desired sport.

Please be aware that the School Physician must review all sports physicals and the official confirmation for participation can be delayed by up to 2 weeks, regardless of status determined by personal physician.

Therefore it is important to obtain the sports physical in a timely manner to avoid delay for your child to try-out and participate in sports.

1. The Physical Form may ONLY be completed by a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse (APN) or physician assistant (PA) that has completed the Student Athlete Cardiac Assessment professional development module. It is recommended that you verify that your medical provider has completed this module before scheduling an appointment for a Physical.
2. Parent/guardian must complete the *History Form* prior to obtaining the Sports Physical.
3. The licensed physician, APN or PA who performs the physical examination must complete the *Physical Examination Form* and *Clearance Form*.
4. For students that had a physical examination completed more than 90 days prior to the first official practice in an athletic season, the *Health History Update form* MUST be completed and signed by the student's parent/guardian.

Any questions please contact the Coach, School Nurse or Athletic Director.

NOTE: The preparticipation physical examination must be conducted by a health care provider who 1) is a licensed physician, advanced practitioner, nurse, or physician assistant; and 2) completed the Student-Athlete Cardiac Assessment Professional Development Module.

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM

Name _____ Date of birth _____

PHYSICIAN REMINDERS

- Consider additional questions on more sensitive issues
 - Do you feel stressed out or under a lot of pressure?
 - Do you ever feel sad, hopeless, depressed, or anxious?
 - Do you feel safe at your home or residence?
 - Have you ever tried cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
 - During the past 30 days, did you use chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
 - Do you drink alcohol or use any other drugs?
 - Have you ever taken anabolic steroids or used any other performance supplement?
 - Have you ever taken any supplements to help you gain or lose weight or improve your performance?
 - Do you wear a seat belt, use a helmet, and use condoms?
- Consider reviewing questions on cardiovascular symptoms (questions 5-14).

EXAMINATION		Male	Female	Corrected	Y	N
Height	Weight	Vision R 20/	1.20/			
BP	Pulse					
MEDICAL		NORMAL				
Appearance						
• Marfan stigmata (kyphoscoliosis, high-arched palate, pectus excavatum, arachnodactyly, arm span > height, hyperflexity, myopia, MVP, aortic insufficiency)						
Eyes/ears/nose/throat						
• Pupils equal						
• Hearing						
Lymph nodes						
Heart						
• Murmurs (auscultation standing, supine, +/- Valsalva)						
• Location of point of maximal impulse (PMI)						
Pulses						
• Simultaneous femoral and radial pulses						
Lungs						
Abdomen						
Genitourinary (males only)						
Skin						
• HSV, lesions suggestive of MRSA, tinea corporis						
Neurologic						
MUSCULOSKELETAL						
Neck						
Back						
Shoulder/arm						
Elbow/forearm						
Wrist/hand/fingers						
Hip/thigh						
Knee						
Leg/ankle						
Foot/toes						
Functional						
• Duck-walk, single leg hop						

*Consider ECG, echocardiogram, and referral to cardiology for abnormal cardiac history or exam.
 *Consider GI exam if in private setting. Having third party present is recommended.
 *Consider cognitive evaluation or baseline neuropsychiatric testing if a history of significant concussion.

- ☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction
- ☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for _____
- ☐ Not cleared
- ☐ Pending further evaluation
- ☐ For any sports
- ☐ For certain sports _____
- Reason _____

Recommendations _____

I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, a physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).

Name of physician, advanced practice nurse (APN), physician assistant (PA) (print/type) _____ Date _____
 Address _____ Phone _____
 Signature of physician, APN, PA _____

☒ PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION CLEARANCE FORM

Name _____ Sex ☐ M ☐ F Age _____ Date of birth _____

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction

☐ Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for _____

☐ Not cleared

☐ Pending further evaluation

☐ For any sports

☐ For certain sports _____

Reason _____

Recommendations _____

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Allergies _____

Other information _____

HCP OFFICE STAMP

--

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN:

Reviewed on _____ (Date)
Approved _____ Not Approved _____
Signature: _____

I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, the physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).

Name of physician, advanced practice nurse (APN), physician assistant (PA) _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Signature of physician, APN, PA _____

Completed Cardiac Assessment Professional Development Module

Date _____ Signature _____

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION HISTORY FORM

Sex _____ Age _____ Grade _____ School _____ Sport(s) _____

☐ Singing Insects

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PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION THE ATHLETE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: SUPPLEMENTAL HISTORY FORM

Date of Exam _____
 Name _____ Date of birth _____
 Sex _____ Age _____ Grade _____ School _____ Sport(s) _____

1. Type of disability		
2. Date of disability		
3. Classification (if available)		
4. Cause of disability (birth, disease, accident/trauma, other)		
5. List the sports you are interested in playing		
6. Do you regularly use a brace, assistive device, or prosthetic?	Yes	No
7. Do you use any special brace or assistive device for sports?		
8. Do you have any rashes, pressure sores, or any other skin problems?		
9. Do you have a hearing loss? Do you use a hearing aid?		
10. Do you have a visual impairment?		
11. Do you use any special devices for bowel or bladder function?		
12. Do you have burning or discomfort when urinating?		
13. Have you had autonomic dysreflexia?		
14. Have you ever been diagnosed with a heat-related (hyperthermia) or cold-related (hypothermia) illness?		
15. Do you have muscle spasticity?		
16. Do you have frequent seizures that cannot be controlled by medication?		

Explain "yes" answers here

Please indicate if you have ever had any of the following.

	Yes	No
Atlantoaxial instability		
X-ray evaluation for atlantoaxial instability		
Easy bleeding		
Enlarged spleen		
Hepatitis		
Osteopenia or osteoporosis		
Difficulty controlling bowel		
Difficulty controlling bladder		
Numbness or tingling in arms or hands		
Numbness or tingling in legs or feet		
Weakness in arms or hands		
Weakness in legs or feet		
Recent change in coordination		
Recent change in ability to walk		
Spina bifida		
Latex allergy		

Explain "yes" answers here

I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the above questions are complete and correct.

Signature of athlete _____ Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

EVALUACIÓN FÍSICA – PRE-PARTICIPACIÓN

FORMULARIO DE HISTORIAL MÉDICO

(Nota: Este formulario debe ser rellenado por el paciente y padre/madre antes de ver al doctor. El doctor debe mantener este formulario en el expediente)

Fecha del examen _____

Nombre _____ Fecha de nacimiento _____

Sexo _____ Edad _____ Grado _____ Escuela _____ Deporte(s) _____

Medicamentos y Alergias: Por favor, indica todos los medicamentos con y sin receta médica y suplementos (herbales y nutricionales) que estás tomando actualmente

Tienes alergias ☐ Sí ☐ No Si la respuesta es sí, por favor identifica abajo la alergia específica.
☐ Medicamentos ☐ Polen ☐ Comida ☐ Picaduras de insecto

Explica abajo las preguntas respondidas con un "sí". Pon un círculo alrededor de las preguntas cuyas respuestas desconoces.

PREGUNTAS GENERALES	Sí	No
1. ¿Alguna vez un doctor te ha prohibido o limitado tu participación en deportes por alguna razón?		
2. ¿Tienes actualmente alguna condición médica? Si es así, por favor identifícala abajo: ☐ Asma ☐ Anemia ☐ Diabetes ☐ Infecciones Otro: _____		
3. ¿Has sido ingresado alguna vez en el hospital?		
4. ¿Has tenido cirugía alguna vez?		
PREGUNTAS SOBRE LA SALUD DE TU CORAZÓN	Sí	No
5. ¿Te has desmayado alguna vez o casi te has desmayado DURANTE o DESPUÉS de hacer ejercicio?		
6. ¿Has tenido alguna vez molestias, dolor o presión en el pecho cuando haces ejercicio?		
7. ¿Alguna vez has sentido que tu corazón se acelera o tiene latidos irregulares cuando haces ejercicio?		
8. ¿Te ha dicho alguna vez un doctor que tienes un problema de corazón? Si es así, marca el que sea pertinente ☐ Presión alta ☐ Un soplo en el corazón ☐ Nivel alto de colesterol ☐ Una infección en el corazón ☐ Enfermedad de Kawasaki ☐ Otro: _____		
9. ¿Alguna vez un doctor te ha pedido que te hagas pruebas de corazón? (Por ejemplo, ECG/EKG, ecocardiograma)		
10. ¿Te sientes mareado o te falta el aire más de lo esperado cuando haces ejercicio?		
11. ¿Has tenido alguna vez una convulsión inexplicable?		
12. ¿Te cansas más o te falta el aire con más rapidez que a tus amigos cuando haces ejercicio?		

PREGUNTAS SOBRE LA SALUD DEL CORAZÓN DE TU FAMILIA	Sí	No
13. ¿Has tenido algún familiar que ha fallecido a causa de problemas de corazón o que haya fallecido de forma inexplicable o inesperada antes de la edad de 50 años (incluyendo ahogo, accidente de tráfico inesperado, o síndrome de muerte súbita infantil)?		
14. ¿Sufre alguien en tu familia de cardiomiopatía hipertrófica, síndrome Marfan, cardiomiopatía arritmogénica ventricular derecha, síndrome de QT corto, síndrome de Brugada, o taquicardia ventricular polimórfica catecolaminérgica?		
15. ¿Alguien en tu familia tiene problemas de corazón, un marcapasos o un desfibrilador implantado en su corazón?		
16. ¿Ha sufrido alguien en tu familia un desmayo inexplicable, convulsiones inexplicables, o casi se ha ahogado?		
PREGUNTAS SOBRE HUESOS Y ARTICULACIONES	Sí	No
17. ¿Alguna vez has perdido un entrenamiento o partido porque te habías lesionado un hueso, músculo, ligamento o tendón?		
18. ¿Te has roto o fracturado alguna vez un hueso o dislocado una articulación?		
19. ¿Has sufrido alguna vez una lesión que haya requerido radiografías, resonancia (MRI) tomografía, inyecciones, terapia, un soporte ortopédico/tabilla, un yeso, o muletas?		
20. ¿Has sufrido alguna vez una fractura por estrés?		
21. ¿Te han dicho alguna vez que tienes o has tenido una radiografía para diagnosticar inestabilidad del cuello o inestabilidad atlantoaxial? (Síndrome de Down o enanismo)		
22. ¿Usas regularmente una tabilla/soporte ortopédico, ortesis, u otro dispositivo de asistencia?		
23. ¿Tienes una lesión en un hueso, músculo o articulación que te esté molestando?		
24. ¿Algunas de tus articulaciones se vuelven dolorosas, inflamadas, se sienten calientes, o se ven enrojecidas?		
25. ¿Tienes historial de artritis juvenil o enfermedad del tejido conectivo?		

PREGUNTAS MÉDICAS	Sí	No
26. ¿Toses, tienes silbidos o dificultad para respirar durante o después de hacer ejercicio?		
27. ¿Has usado alguna vez un inhalador o has tomado medicamento para el asma?		
28. ¿Hay alguien en tu familia que tenga asma?		
29. ¿Naciste sin o te falta un riñón, un ojo, un testículo (varones), el bazo, o algún otro órgano?		
30. ¿Tienes dolor en la ingle o una protuberancia o hernia dolorosa en el área de la ingle?		
31. ¿Has tenido mononucleosis (mono) infecciosa en el último mes?		
32. ¿Tienes algún sarpullido, llagas, u otros problemas en la piel?		
33. ¿Has tenido herpes o infección de SARM en la piel?		
34. ¿Has sufrido alguna vez una lesión o contusión en la cabeza?		
35. ¿Has sufrido alguna vez un golpe en la cabeza que te haya producido una confusión, dolor de cabeza prolongado, o problemas de memoria?		
36. ¿Tienes un historial de un trastorno de convulsiones?		
37. ¿Tienes dolores de cabeza cuando haces ejercicio?		
38. ¿Has tenido entumecimiento, hormigueo, o debilidad en los brazos o piernas después de haber sufrido un golpe o haberte caído?		
39. ¿Has sido alguna vez incapaz de mover los brazos o las piernas después de haber sufrido un golpe o haberte caído?		
40. ¿Te has enfermado alguna vez al hacer ejercicio cuando hace calor?		
41. ¿Tienes calambres frecuentes en los músculos cuando haces ejercicio?		
42. ¿Tienes tú o alguien en tu familia el rasgo depranocítico		
43. ¿Has tenido algún problema con los ojos o la vista?		
44. ¿Has sufrido alguna lesión o daño en los ojos?		
45. ¿Usas lentes o lentes de contacto?		
46. ¿Usas protección para los ojos, tal como lentes protectoras o un escudo facial?		
47. ¿Te preocupa tu peso?		
48. ¿Estás intentando aumentar o perder de peso o alguien te ha recomendado que lo hagas?		
49. ¿Estás siguiendo alguna dieta especial o evitas ciertos tipos de comida?		
50. ¿Has tenido alguna vez un trastorno alimenticio?		
51. ¿Tienes alguna preocupación de la que quieras hablar con el doctor?		

SÓLO PARA MUJERES	Sí	No
52. ¿Has tenido alguna vez el período menstrual?		
53. ¿Qué edad tenías cuando tuviste tu primer período menstrual?		
54. ¿Cuántos períodos has tenido en los últimos 12 meses?		

Explica aquí las preguntas a las que respondiste con un "sí"

[illegible]

Yo por la presente declaro que, según mi más leal saber y entender, mis respuestas a las preguntas anteriores están completas y son correctas.

Firma del atleta _____

Firma del padre/madre/tutor legal _____

Fecha _____



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: January 9, 2018
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads,
Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities, Nonpublic School
Administrators
Route To: Principals, School Nurses, Athletic Directors, Athletic Trainers, Coaches
From: Peggy McDonald, Acting Assistant Commissioner
Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services
Deadline: March 2, 2018

Opioid Use and Misuse Fact Sheet and Sign-Off Sheet

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.10, public school districts, approved private schools for students with disabilities, and nonpublic schools participating in an interscholastic sports program must distribute the Opioid Use and Misuse Educational Fact Sheet to all student-athletes and cheerleaders. In addition, schools and districts must obtain a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the fact sheet from each student-athlete and cheerleader, and for students under age 18, the parent or guardian must also sign.

In accordance with the law, the fact sheet must be distributed and a sign-off sheet completed and collected for each student-athlete or cheerleader prior to the first official practice session of the spring 2018 athletic season (March 2, as designated by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association), and annually thereafter prior to the student's first official practice of the school year. For the convenience of school officials, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has designed a template sign-off form. This sign-off form cannot be combined with any other sign-off sheets that students or parents are required to complete.

These forms, as well as a text-only version of the Opioid Use and Misuse Fact Sheet, can be found on the NJDOE's Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drug Use webpage.

Background

In July 2017, Governor Christie signed into law P.L. 2017, c.167, which requires the NJDOE to develop a fact sheet containing information on the use and misuse of opioid drugs in the event that a health care provider prescribes a student-athlete or cheerleader an opioid for a sports-related injury. The law also requires student-athletes (and their parents, if the student is under age 18) to annually sign an acknowledgement of receipt of the fact sheet. The fact sheet was developed by the NJDOE in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Health, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association, and Karan Chauhan, a student at Parsippany Hills High School who serves as the student representative to the State Board of Education.

Contact Information

Questions may be directed to healthyschools@doe.state.nj.us.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Kimberley Harrington, Commissioner
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools

[The New Jersey Department of Education developed this template Student-Athlete Sign-Off Form in January 2018 to assist schools with adhering to state statute requiring student-athletes (and their parents/guardians, if the student is a minor) to confirm they have received an Opioid Fact Sheet from the school. School districts, approved private schools for students with disabilities, and nonpublic schools that participate in an interscholastic sports or cheerleading program should insert their district or school letterhead here.]

Use and Misuse of Opioid Drugs Fact Sheet

Student-Athlete and Parent/Guardian Sign-Off

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.10, public school districts, approved private schools for students with disabilities, and nonpublic schools participating in an interscholastic sports program must distribute this Opioid Use and Misuse Educational Fact Sheet to all student-athletes and cheerleaders. In addition, schools and districts must obtain a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the fact sheet from each student-athlete and cheerleader, and for students under age 18, the parent or guardian must also sign.

This sign-off sheet is due to the appropriate school personnel as determined by your district prior to the first official practice session of the spring 2018 athletic season (March 2, 2018, as determined by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association) and annually thereafter prior to the student-athlete's or cheerleader's first official practice of the school year.

Name of School:

Name of School District (if applicable):

I/We acknowledge that we received and reviewed the Educational Fact Sheet on the Use and Misuse of Opioid Drugs.

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature (also needed if student is under age 18):

Date:

¹Does not include athletic clubs or intramural events.

Perth Amboy Public Schools

Mr. Nephhtaly Cardona

Director of Athletics, Health & Physical Education

300 Eagle Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Phone: (732) 376-6830 ext. 23406

Email: Nephcardona@paps.net

NJSIAA STEROID TESTING POLICY.

CONSENT TO RANDOM TESTING

In Executive Order 72, issued December 20, 2005, Governor Richard Codey directed the New Jersey Department of Education to work in conjunction with the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) to develop and implement a program of random testing for steroids, of teams and individuals qualifying for championship games.

Beginning in the Fall, 2006 sports season, any student-athlete who possesses, distributes, ingests or otherwise uses any of the banned substances on the attached page, without written prescription by a fully-licensed physician, as recognized by the American Medical Association, to treat a medical condition, violates the NJSIAA's sportsmanship rule, and is subject to NJSIAA penalties, including ineligibility from competition. The NJSIAA will test certain randomly selected individuals and teams that qualify for a state championship tournament or state championship competition for banned substances. The results of all tests shall be considered confidential and shall only be disclosed to the student, his or her parents and his or her school. No student may participate in NJSIAA competition unless the student and the student's parent/guardian consent to random testing.

By signing below, we consent to random testing in accordance with the NJSIAA steroid testing policy. We understand that, if the student or the student's team qualifies for a state championship tournament or state championship competition, the student may be subject to testing for banned substances.

Signature of Student-Athlete

Print Student-Athlete's Name

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Print Parent/Guardian's Name

Date

STUDENT/PARENT CONCUSSION AWARENESS FORM

SCHOOL: _____

DANGERS OF CONCUSSION

Concussions at all levels of sports have received a great deal of attention and a state law has been passed to address this issue. Adolescent athletes are particularly vulnerable to the effects of concussion. Once considered little more than a minor "ding" to the head, it is now understood that a concussion has the potential to result in death, or changes in brain function (either short-term or long-term). A concussion is a brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function. A concussion occurs when the brain is violently rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body. Continued participation in any sport following a concussion can lead to worsening concussion symptoms, as well as increased risk for further injury to the brain, and even death.

Player and parental education in this area is crucial – that is the reason for this document. Refer to it regularly. This form must be signed by a parent or guardian of each student who wishes to participate in GHSA athletics. One copy needs to be returned to the school, and one retained at home.

COMMON SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF CONCUSSION

- Headache, dizziness, poor balance, moves clumsily, reduced energy level/tiredness
- Nausea or vomiting
- Blurred vision, sensitivity to light and sounds
- Foggy/loss of memory, difficulty concentrating, slowed thought processes, confused about surroundings or game assignments
- Unexplained changes in behavior and personality
- Loss of consciousness (NITE: this does NOT occur in all concussions)

BY-LAW 2.68: GHSA CONCUSSION POLICY: In accordance with Georgia law and national playing rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest and shall not return to play until an appropriate health care professional has determined that no concussion has occurred. (NOTE: An appropriate health care professional may include, licensed physician (MD/DO) or another licensed individual under the supervision of a licensed physician, such as a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or certified athletic trainer who has received training in concussion evaluation and management.

- a) No athlete is allowed to return to a game or a practice on the same day that a concussion (a) has been diagnosed, OR (b) cannot be ruled out.
- b) Any athlete diagnosed with a concussion shall be cleared medically by an appropriate health care professional prior to resuming participation in any future practice or contest. The formulation of a gradual return to play protocol shall be a part of the medical clearance.
- c) It is mandatory that every coach in each GHSA sport participate in a free, online course on concussion management prepared by the NFHS and available at www.nfhslearn.com at least every two years – beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.
- d) Each school will be responsible for monitoring the participation of its coaches in the concussion management course, and shall keep a record of those who participate.

I HAVE READ THIS FORM AND I UNDERSTAND THE FACTS PRESENTED IN IT.

SIGNED: _____

(Student)

(Parent or Guardian)

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Sudden Cardiac Death Pamphlet
Sign-Off Sheet

Name of School District: _____

Name of Local School: _____

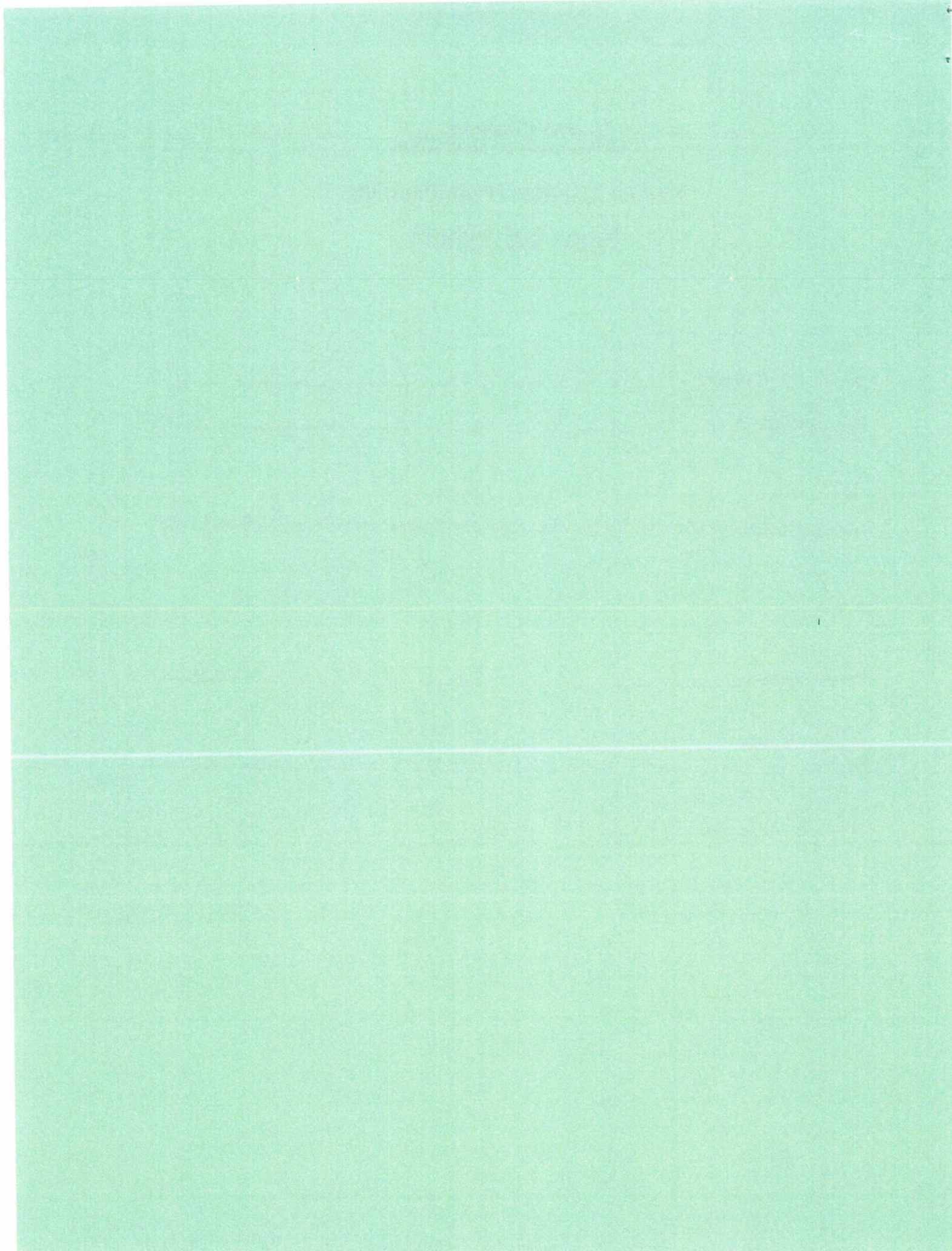
I/We acknowledge that we received and reviewed the Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes pamphlet.

Student Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian

Signature: _____

Date: _____



SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH IN YOUNG ATHLETES

blood to the brain and body. This is called *ventricular fibrillation* (ven-TRIK-yoo-lar fib-roo-LAY-shun). The problem is usually caused by one of several cardiovascular abnormalities and electrical diseases of the heart that go unnoticed in healthy-appearing athletes.

The most common cause of sudden death in an athlete is *hypertrophic cardiomyopathy* (hi-per-TRO-fic CAR-dee-oh-my-OP-a-thee) also called HCM. HCM is a disease of the heart with abnormal thickening of the heart muscle, which can cause serious heart rhythm problems and blockages to blood flow. This genetic disease runs in families and usually develops gradually over many years.

The second most likely cause is *congenital* (con-JEN-ik-al) (i.e., present from birth) *abnormalities of the coronary arteries*. This means that these blood vessels are connected to the main blood vessel of the heart in an abnormal way. This differs from blockages that may occur when people get older (commonly called "coronary artery disease," which may lead to a heart attack).

Other diseases of the heart that can lead to sudden death in young people include:

- *Myocarditis* (my-oh-car-DIE-tis), an acute inflammation of the heart muscle (usually due to a virus).

Sudden death in young athletes between the ages of 10 and 19 is very rare. What, if anything, can be done to prevent this kind of tragedy?

What is sudden cardiac death in the young athlete?

Sudden cardiac death is the result of an unexpected failure of proper heart function, usually (about 80% of the time) during or immediately after exercise without trauma. Since the heart stops pumping adequately, the athlete quickly collapses, loses consciousness, and ultimately dies unless normal heart rhythm is restored using an automated external defibrillator (AED).

How common is sudden death in young athletes?

Sudden cardiac death in young athletes is very rare. About 100 such deaths are reported in the United States per year. The chance of sudden death occurring to any individual high school athlete is about one in 200,000 per year.

Sudden cardiac death is more common in males than in females; in football and basketball than in other sports; and in African-Americans than in other races and ethnic groups.

What are the most common causes?

Research suggests that the main cause is a loss of proper heart rhythm, causing the heart to quiver instead of pumping

Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes

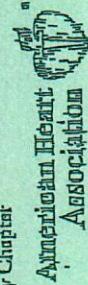


The Basic Facts on Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes



American Academy of Pediatrics
ORGANIZED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

New Jersey Chapter



Learn and Live

Website Resources

- Sudden Death in Athletes www.suddendeathathletes.org
- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association www.hcmusa.org
- American Heart Association www.heart.org

Collaborating Agencies:

American Academy of Pediatrics
New Jersey Chapter
8888 Quarterbridge Road, Suite 100
Harrison, NJ 08819
(p) 800-892-0014
(t) 800-892-0015
www.aap.org



American Heart Association
1 Union Street, Suite 301
Robbinsville, NJ, 08861
(p) 800-208-0020
www.heart.org



New Jersey Department of Education
PO Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08620-0500
(p) 800-202-4489
www.state.nj.us/education/

New Jersey Department of Health



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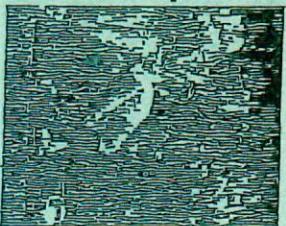
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Final editing: Stephen G. Rice, MD, PhD - January 2011

• Dilated cardiomyopathy, an enlargement of the heart for unknown reasons.

• Long QT syndrome and other electrical abnormalities of the heart which cause abnormal fast heart rhythms that can also run in families.

• Marfan syndrome, an inherited disorder that affects heart valves, walls of major arteries, eyes and the skeleton. It is generally seen in unusually tall athletes, especially if bending tail is not common in other family members.



Are there warning signs to watch for?

In more than a third of these sudden cardiac deaths, there were warning signs that were not reported or taken seriously. Warning signs are:

- Fainting, a seizure or convulsions during physical activity
- Fainting or a seizure from emotional excitement, emotional distress or being startled
- Dizziness or lightheadedness, especially during exertion
- Chest pains, at rest or during exertion

• Palpitations - awareness of the heart beating unusually (skip(s), irregular or extra beats) during athletic or during pool down periods of athletic participation

• Fatigue or tiring more quickly than peers

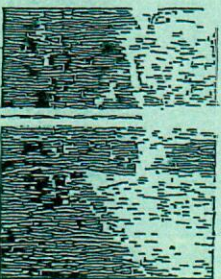
• Being unable to keep up with friends due to shortness of breath

• What are the current recommendations for screening young athletes?

New Jersey requires all school athletes to be examined by their primary care physician ("medical home") or school physician at least once per year. The New Jersey Department of Education requires use of the specific Annual Athletic Physical Participation Physical Examination Form.

This process begins with the parents and student-athletes answering questions about symptoms during exertion (such as chest pain, dizziness, fainting, palpitations or shortness of breath) and questions about family health history.

The primary healthcare provider needs to know if any family member died suddenly during physical activity or during a seizure. They also need to know if anyone in the family under the age of 50 had an unexplained sudden death such as drowning or car accident. This information must be provided annually for

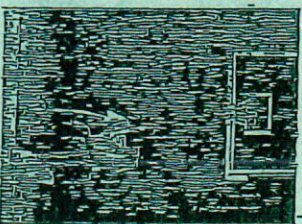


each examination. It is so essential to identify those at risk for sudden cardiac death.

The required physical examination includes measurement of blood pressure and a careful listening examination of the heart, as well as for murmurs and rhythm abnormalities. If there are no warning signs reported in the health history and no abnormalities discovered on examination, no further evaluation or testing is recommended.

When should a student athlete see a heart specialist?

If the primary healthcare provider or school physician has concerns, a referral to a child heart specialist, a pediatric cardiologist, is recommended. This specialist will perform a more thorough evaluation, including an electrocardiogram (ECG), which is a graph of the electrical activity of the heart. An echocardiogram, which is an ultrasound test to allow for direct visualization of the heart structure, will likely also be done. The specialist may also order a treadmill exercise test and a monitor to enable a longer recording of the heart rhythm. None of these testing is invasive or uncomfortable.



Can sudden cardiac death be prevented just through proper screening?

A proper evaluation should find most, but not all, conditions that would cause sudden death in the athlete. This is because some diseases are difficult to uncover and may only develop later in life. Others can develop following a normal screening evaluation, such as an infection of the heart muscle from a virus.

This is why screening evaluations and a review of the family health history need to be performed on a yearly basis by the athlete's primary healthcare provider. With proper screening and evaluation, most cases can be identified and prevented.

Why have an AED on site during sporting events?

The only effective treatment for ventricular fibrillation is immediate use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). An AED can restore the heart back into a normal rhythm. An AED is also life-saving for ventricular fibrillation caused by a blow to the chest over the heart (commotio cordis).

The American Academy of Pediatrics/New Jersey Chapter recommends that schools:

- Have an AED available at every sports event (three minutes total time to reach and return with the AED)
- Have personnel available who are trained in AED use present at practices and games.
- Have coaches and athletic trainers trained in basic life support techniques (CPR)
- Call 911 immediately while someone is retrieving the AED.