

Surgeries

Information sheet, effective from 01.01.2025

The procedure of a surgery itself is not subject to any restrictions with regard to the anti-doping regulations. The decisive factor is always the medication used before, during and after surgery.

In the case of planned surgeries or other medical procedures (e.g. diagnostic examinations), athletes are requested to check the prohibited status of the planned medication in advance using the Global DRO medication enquiry. In addition, the medication actually used should be checked after the procedure. Even in the case of an emergency surgery, the medication used should be checked afterwards as soon as health situation allows.

Swiss Sport Integrity recommends keeping a report of the surgery at home for future reference in any case.

Tip: Take this information sheet with you to your doctor and have the planned medication ticked at the bottom. This way you will quickly see what you need to do.

Substances that may be used (examples)

These substances, which may be administered during surgeries, are permitted at all times. No further steps are necessary here.

- Atropine
- Bupivacaine
- Cefazolin
- Cisatracurium
- Desflurane
- Diclofenac
- Enoxaparin

- Esketamine
- Etomidate
- Granisetron
- Ibuprofen
- Ketamine
- Lidocaine
- Mepivacaine

- Metamizole
- Midazolam
- Mivacurium
- Nitrous oxide
- Ondansetron
- Oxygen (inhaled)
- Pantoprazole

- Paracetamol
- Prilocaine
- Propofol
- Rocuronium
- Ropivacaine
- Sevoflurane

Substances prohibited in competition (examples)

These substances are prohibited in competition but permitted out of competition. After using these substances, you should therefore wait a few days before the next competition. Specific washout periods apply for some of the substances listed. These can be found at www.sportingegrity.ch/en/gluocorticoids and www.sportintegrity.ch/en/painkillers.

- Adrenaline (Epinephrine)
- Alfentanil
- Dexamethasone

- Fentanyl
- Morphine
- Pethidine

- Prednisolone
- Prednisone
- Remifentanil

- Sufentanil
- Tramadol
- Triamcinolone acetone

Substances and methods prohibited at all times (examples)

Substances that are prohibited at all times are only used very rarely during surgery. International-level athletes and athletes in the TUE pool must always apply for a therapeutic use exemption (TUE).

Xenon (inhalation anesthetic)

Blood transfusions

Transfusions of erythrocyte concentrates

Other substances and medications can be checked using the Medication Inquiry Service Global DRO www.sportintegrity.ch/en/medicaments.

If you have any questions about the prohibited status of the medication used or the procedure for applying for a TUE, please contact med@sportintegrity.ch.

Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE)

If medication is used during the surgery that is prohibited at all times, international-level athletes and athletes in the TUE pool apply for an (emergency) TUE. The same applies to these athletes when using medication that is only prohibited in competition on competition days.

Athletes not in the TUE pool of Swiss Sport Integrity and who are not considered international-level athletes will be given the opportunity to submit a retroactive TUE application after a possible doping control.

If you take part in a competition shortly after the surgery, please indicate the surgery and all medication received on the doping control form. If the washout period for a glucocorticoid or painkiller banned in competition is not respected before a competition, a retroactive TUE application may be required for international-level athletes and athletes in the TUE pool. Swiss Sport Integrity or the International Sports Federation will ask you to do so if necessary.

Intravenous Infusions

According to the Prohibited List, intravenous infusions and/or injections of more than 100 ml per 12-hour period of any substance are a prohibited method, even if the substance administered is not prohibited. This does not include intravenous infusions and/or injections, which are legitimately received in the course of hospital treatments, surgical procedures, or during clinical diagnostic investigations.

However, if a prohibited substance is administered intravenously in this context, the substance remains prohibited although the method would be permitted, i.e. an (emergency) TUE application must be submitted for the drug in question (in accordance with the information above).