

PROSPECTIVE OR RETROACTIVE TUE GUIDE



This factsheet is designed to provide guidance regarding prospective and retroactive Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs).

Players are strongly encouraged to apply for a TUE in advance of starting treatment. This is known as a prospective TUE. Players who possess or use a prohibited substance or prohibited method prior to being granted a TUE do so at their own risk.

Nevertheless, the ITIA recognises that applying for a TUE in advance is not always possible, especially when players require immediate medical treatment. The health and safety of players is critical, and no treatment should be withheld that would result in the player's health being compromised.

The World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ISTUE) outlines a range of situations in which a player may be unable or not required to submit a TUE in advance. Such situations permit what is known as a retroactive TUE, which allows the player the opportunity to apply for a TUE after starting treatment with a prohibited substance or prohibited method.

Retroactive TUE applications may be made in the following circumstances:

a) Emergency or urgent treatment of a medical condition was required.

This provision recognises that players are often prescribed medications/treatments which their physicians advise to start immediately or where failure to start immediately could put the player's health at risk

b) There was insufficient time, opportunity or other exceptional circumstances that prevented the player from submitting a TUE application, or having it reviewed, prior to sample collection.

This provision applies only in the event that a sample has been collected from a player before they have had the opportunity to apply for a prospective TUE.

c) The player is not classed as an International-Level-Athlete.

This provision relates only to players competing in their first covered event. Such players are not classed as International-Level Athletes and are not required (though are still advised) to apply for a TUE in advance. It does not apply to players who have competed in more than one ATP, ITF, WTA, or Grand Slam event, and who, as a result, are classed as International-Level Athletes.

d) The player used a substance out-of-competition that is only prohibited in-competition.

This provision applies if a player takes a prohibited substance prior to the start of their in-competition period (i.e., 23:59 on the day prior to the start of the first draw in which they are entered), which may remain in their system for several days after its use and subsequently be detected during a doping control. It only applies to substances in classes S6 (stimulants), S7 (narcotics), S8 (cannabinoids), and S9 (glucocorticoids) on the WADA Prohibited List.

If you are in any doubt about which, if any, retroactive criterion is applicable to you or have any questions regarding prospective and retroactive TUE applications, please contact anti-doping.admin@itia.tennis.



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