

DUTIES AND PROCEDURES FOR OFFICIALS 2010

Medical

a. Medical Condition

A medical condition is a medical illness or a musculoskeletal injury that warrants medical evaluation and/or medical treatment by the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer (also known as the Primary Health Care Provider) during the warm-up or the match.

- Treatable Medical Conditions
 - Acute medical condition: the sudden development of a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury during the warm-up or the match that requires immediate medical attention.
 - Non-acute medical condition: a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury that develops or is aggravated during the warm-up or the match and requires medical attention at the changeover or set break.
- Non-Treatable Medical Conditions
 - Any medical condition that cannot be treated appropriately, or that will not be improved by available medical treatment within the time allowed.
 - Any medical condition (inclusive of symptoms) that has not developed or has not been aggravated during the warm-up or the match.
 - General player fatigue.
 - Any medical condition requiring injections, intravenous infusions or oxygen, except for diabetes, for which prior medical certification has been obtained, and for which subcutaneous injections of insulin may be administered.

b. Medical Evaluation

During the warm-up or the match, the player may request through the Chair Umpire for the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer to evaluate him/her during the next change over or set break. Only in the case that a player develops an acute medical condition that necessitates an immediate stop in play may the player request through the Chair Umpire for the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer to evaluate him/her immediately.

The purpose of the medical evaluation is to determine if the player has developed a treatable medical condition and, if so, to determine when medical treatment is warranted. Such evaluation should be performed within a reasonable length of time, balancing player safety on the one hand, and continuous play on the other. At the discretion of the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer, such evaluation may be performed in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor, and may be performed off-court. *

If the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer determines that the player has a non-treatable medical condition, then the player will be advised that no medical treatment will be allowed.

c. Medical Time-Out

A Medical Time-Out is allowed by the ITF Supervisor/Referee or Chair Umpire when the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer has evaluated the player and has determined that additional time for medical treatment is required.

The Medical Time-Out takes place during a change over or set break, unless the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer determines that the player has developed an acute medical condition that requires immediate medical treatment.

The Medical Time-Out begins when the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer is ready to start treatment. At the discretion of the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer, treatment during a Medical Time-Out may take place off-court, and may proceed in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor. *

The Medical Time-Out is limited to three (3) minutes of treatment. However, at professional events with prize money of \$25,000 or less, the ITF Supervisor/Referee may extend the time allowed for treatment if necessary.

A player is allowed one (1) Medical Time-Out for each distinct treatable medical condition. All clinical manifestations of heat illness shall be considered as one (1) treatable medical condition. All treatable musculoskeletal injuries that manifest as part of a kinetic chain continuum shall be considered as one (1) treatable medical condition.

Muscle Cramping: A player may receive treatment for muscle cramping only during the time allotted for change of ends and/or set breaks. Players may not receive a Medical Time-Out for muscle cramping.

In cases where there is doubt about whether the player suffers from an acute medical condition, non-acute medical condition inclusive of muscle cramping, or non-treatable medical condition, the decision of the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer, in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor, if appropriate, is final. If the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer believes that the player has heat illness, and if muscle cramping is one of the manifestations of heat illness, then the muscle cramping may only be treated as part of the recommended treatment by the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer for the heat illness condition.

Note:

A player who has stopped play by claiming an acute medical condition, but is determined by the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer and/or Tournament Doctor to have muscle cramping, shall be ordered by the Chair Umpire to resume play immediately.

If the player cannot continue playing due to severe muscle cramping, as determined by the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer and/or Tournament Doctor, he/she may forfeit the point(s)/game(s) needed to get to a change of end or set-break in order to receive immediate evaluation, and treatment if time allows. There may be a total of two (2) additional change of ends treatments for muscle cramping in a match, not necessarily consecutive.

If it is determined by the Chair Umpire or ITF Supervisor/Referee that gamesmanship was involved, then a Code Violation for Unsportsmanlike Conduct could be issued.

A total of two (2) consecutive Medical Time-Outs may be allowed by the ITF Supervisor/Referee or Chair Umpire for the special circumstance in which the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer determines that the player has developed at least two (2) distinct acute and treatable medical conditions. This may include: a medical illness in conjunction with a musculoskeletal injury; two or more acute and distinct musculoskeletal injuries. In such cases, the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer will perform a medical evaluation for the two

or more treatable medical conditions during a single evaluation, and may then determine that two consecutive Medical Time-Outs are required.

d. Medical Treatment

A player may receive on-court medical treatment and/or supplies from the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer and/or Tournament Doctor during any changeover or set break. As a guideline, such medical treatment should be limited to two (2) changeovers/set breaks for each treatable medical condition, before or after a Medical Time-Out, and need not be consecutive. Players may not receive medical treatment for non-treatable medical conditions.

e. Penalty

After completion of a Medical Time-Out or medical treatment, any delay in resumption of play shall be penalized by Code Violations for Delay of Game. Any player abuse of this Medical Rule will be subject to penalty in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.

f. Bleeding

If a player is bleeding, the Chair Umpire must stop play as soon as possible, and the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer must be called to the court by the Chair Umpire for evaluation and treatment. The Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer, in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor if appropriate, will evaluate the source of the bleeding, and will request a Medical Time-Out for treatment if necessary.

If requested by the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer and/or Tournament Doctor, the ITF Supervisor/Referee or Chair Umpire may allow up to a total of five (5) minutes to assure control of the bleeding.

If blood has spilled onto the court or its immediate vicinity, play must not resume until the blood spill has been cleaned appropriately.

g. Vomiting

If a player is vomiting, the Chair Umpire must stop play if vomiting has spilled onto the court, or if the player requests medical evaluation. If the player requests medical evaluation, then the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer must determine if the player has a treatable medical condition, and if so, whether the medical condition is acute or non-acute.

If vomiting has spilled onto the court, play must not resume until the vomit spill has been cleaned appropriately.

h. Physical Incapacity

During a match, if there is an emergency medical condition and the player involved is unable to make a request for a Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer, the Chair Umpire shall immediately call for the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer and Tournament Doctor to assist the player.

Either before or during a match, if a player is considered unable physically to compete, the Physiotherapist/Athletic Trainer and/or Tournament Doctor should inform the ITF Supervisor/Referee and recommend that the player is ruled unable to compete in the match to be played, or retired from the match in progress.

The ITF Supervisor/Referee shall use great discretion before taking this action and should base the decision on the best interests of professional

tennis, as well as taking all medical advice and any other information into consideration.

The player may subsequently compete in another event at the same tournament if the Tournament Doctor determines that the player's condition has improved to the extent that the player may safely physically perform at an appropriate level of play, whether the same day or on a later day.

- * It is recognized that national laws or governmental or other binding regulations imposed upon the event by authorities outside its control may require more compulsory participation by the Tournament Doctor in all decisions regarding diagnosis and treatment.