

All IPC members

Sent via email

Bonn, 26 September 2019

IPC Medical Code – update and member consultation

Dear Paralympic colleagues,

We are writing to provide you with an update in relation to the IPC Medical Code (Code).

By way of background, the Code was adopted in 2011 and provides a framework to ensure the athletes' health and safety, regulate issues related to medical insurance and liability, and ensure adequate medical services at events. The Code mirrors the provisions of the IOC Medical Code, with certain differences that are specific to Para sport and Para athletes.

The IPC Medical Committee has recently carried out a review of the Code, following amendments made to the IOC Medical Code in 2016. That review has led to certain recommended changes that are proposed to be adopted at the upcoming IPC General Assembly in October (as communicated separately). A clean copy of the new draft Code is attached for reference.

In light of the feedback received from members during the review, the IPC Governing Board also now wishes to carry out a further consultation on certain additional matters, as identified below.

Given the importance of these questions, members will have until **31 December 2019** to provide feedback to medical@paralympic.org. We kindly ask that you bring this communication to the attention of all relevant personnel within your jurisdiction.

Kind regards,



Peter Van de Vliet
Medical & Scientific Director
International Paralympic Committee



IPC Medical Code - consultation questions

1. Should the IPC Medical Code be mandatory for members (as opposed to, say, best practice non-binding guidelines)? In particular:
 - a. Should the IPC Medical Code be mandatory for the Paralympic Games?
 - b. Should the IPC Medical Code be mandatory outside of the Paralympic Games? If so, at what levels e.g. for all events at all levels?

Note: The current IPC Medical Code is mandatory for all members. It applies at the Paralympic Games and at all events and competitions sanctioned by the IPC or any member organisation i.e. international federations, international organisations of sport for the disabled, regional councils and National Paralympic Committees. It applies to all sports activities practiced within the context of the Paralympic Movement, in competition as well as out of competition. This is in contrast to the IOC Medical Code, which applies to the Olympic Games but is not mandatory outside of that.

2. What specific obligations/requirements, if any, should be placed on International Federations?
3. What specific obligations/requirements, if any, should be placed on National Paralympic Committees?
4. What specific obligations/requirements, if any, should be placed on International Organisations of Sport for the Disabled?
5. What specific obligations/requirements, if any, should be placed on Regions?
6. Do you have any specific concerns or recommendations that the IPC should be aware of in relation to medical matters generally?