

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 16, 3 March 2016

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OUTCOME: 10 - Sport and Recreation

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Senator: Madigan, John

Question:

Senator MADIGAN: Mr McDevitt, you refer to this WADA list of banned substances. I have been trying to find where this list is. For the benefit of the committee, could you point us to where this list is, because I am having difficulty finding this list that you have referred to tonight. Mr McDevitt: I will give you the link. Senator MADIGAN: Also, for the benefit of the committee, is ASADA able to furnish the committee with screen shots of the banned substances over the past five years, between 2010 and the present day? Mr McDevitt: Essentially that will be copies of the list. Yes, I think we can get that for you. Senator MADIGAN: And also tell us where we can get those ourselves— Senator MADIGAN: Could you show us where TB4 is specifically mentioned on those lists of WADA from 2010 to the present day? Mr McDevitt: I will take that on notice.

Answer:

1. The World Anti-Doping Code mandates that the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) publish an annual list of Prohibited Substances and Methods called the 'Prohibited List'. The Prohibited List has been published by WADA since 2004.
2. The current Prohibited List is published on the WADA website at www.wada-ama.org/en/resources/science-medicine/prohibited-list. Archived versions of the Prohibited List for each year since 2004 are also published at the same link. In addition to internet publication, WADA also makes the Prohibited List available for mobile devices with free applications available for download. The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority website also contains an information page about the Prohibited List with a link to the Prohibited List at www.asada.gov.au/substances/prohibited-substances-and-methods.
3. Copies of the WADA Prohibited List for 2010-2016 (inclusive) are at Attachment A.
4. The substance Thymosin Beta 4 is prohibited under category S2 of the Prohibited List. It is a growth factor affecting muscle, tendon or ligament, vascularisation and regenerative capacity. The substance is also prohibited under category S0 of the Prohibited List as it has never been approved by any regulatory agency for human therapeutic use.

5. The AFL Tribunal itself was comfortably satisfied that the substance Thymosin Beta 4 was at the relevant time a prohibited substance – see the link to the Tribunal’s public statement at www.afl.com.au/news/2015-03-31/full-tribunal-statement, which is at Attachment B.
6. In coming to its conclusion, the Tribunal considered the expert report prepared by Professor David Handelsman. The report is at Attachment C.
7. Had players performed an internet search at the relevant time, they would have found that the substance Thymosin Beta 4 was not approved for human use.