SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

- Medical History
  - Usage of CHDP Preparticipation Physical Evaluation History Form. This form includes history such as review of past injuries, surgeries or illnesses; abnormal signs or symptoms (especially during exertion); family history related to cardiac risk factors; menstrual history for females; medication usage; and drug allergies. See Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program Preparticipation Physical Evaluation History Form.
  - For additional information on the importance of the medical history questions (items 52-54) for females visit the following: http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/118/5/2245.full?sid=8c34fa3a-c2a2-4e47-b903-50a08938b237

- Physical Examination
  - Usage of CHDP Preparticipation Evaluation Physical Examination Form for Preparticipation. This form includes medical and musculoskeletal examination and recommendations for clearance to participate. See Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program Physical Examination Form for Preparticipation.
  - See Health Assessment Guidelines, Section 401-2 for components of the adolescent physical examination.
  - Consider additional questions on more sensitive issues
    - Do you feel stressed out or under a lot of pressure?
    - Do you ever feel sad, hopeless, depressed or anxious?
    - Do you feel safe at your home or residence?
    - Have you ever tried cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff or dip?
    - During the past 30 days, did you use chewing tobacco, snuff or dip?
    - Do you drink alcohol or use any other drugs?
    - Have you ever taken anabolic steroids or used any other performance supplement?
    - Have you ever taken any supplements to help you gain or lose weight or improve your performance?
    - Do you wear a seatbelt, use a helmet, and use condoms?
  - Consider reviewing CHDP Preparticipation Physical Evaluation History Form questions on cardiovascular symptoms (questions 5-12).

- Abnormal findings must be referred to appropriate specialist for further evaluation.

RATIONALE

The overall goal of the Preparticipation Physical Examination (PPE) is to assist with the maintenance of the health and safety of child and adolescent athletes in training and competition. The PPE assists with
detection of conditions that may be life threatening or disabling; detection of conditions that may predispose an individual to injury; and meeting legal and administrative requirements of educational institutions. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Policy Statement on Pediatric Sudden Cardiac Arrest, April 2012, suggests the “use of standardized PPE forms and processes to minimize unnecessary variation” as a step for consideration in the prevention of sudden cardiac arrest. The CHDP PPE forms included are modeled closely after the forms that were developed by the AAP and other professional organizations. Similar forms have been adopted by a number of states, cities, and school districts, including Los Angeles Unified School District.

It is recommended that every child participating in strenuous extracurricular activities (e.g., sports, cheerleading, marching band and dance) receive routine PPE screening. Annual performance is recommended prior to participation. Frequency and timing of the PPE may be subject to local school district requirements.

Qualification of an examiner to perform the PPE is based on training and clinical expertise. Nurse practitioners and physician assistants, who are appropriately trained, licensed, and under the direct or indirect supervision of a California-licensed physician may perform PPEs and sign PPE forms. Physician co-signatures on PPE forms signed by nurse practitioners and physician assistants are not required by law. All providers should work within the scope of their license and use appropriate referral and consultation to address problems beyond their expertise.

Additionally, local efforts should support education programs for effective bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and appropriate automated external defibrillator (AED) use.

REFERENCES


