School of Biomedical Sciences FACULTY OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



# Performance enhancement in sport "Gene doping"



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## Drugs in sport



Should the use of performance enhancing drugs be permitted in sport?

- 1 = strongly disagree
- 2 = disagree
- 3 = agree
- 4 = strongly agree



### Drugs in sport: EPO



• Normal values: 1-19 (24) mU/ml

# Do you think any of your athletes have taken EPO?

- > Abdul
- ≻ Tom
- > Ann
- > Mary

# Any alternative explanations?

- Altitude training
- Bacterial contamination- Belgian triathlete Rutger Beke (2005).
- Masking agents
  - Protease
- Recombinant EPO (1980s)- test 2000
- Continuous erythropoietin receptor activator (CERA)

### Drugs in sport: EPO



#### **The Telekom Affair**

Image of Bjarne Riis (available from www.cyclinghalloffame.com /riders/rider\_bio.asp?rider\_id=259)

> Bjarne Riis 1996 Tour de France

#### Eero Mäntyranta

Image of Eero Mäntyranta (Available from www.noc.fi/in\_english/olympic\_history /statistics\_by\_games/1964\_innsbruck/)

7 medals (3G), from 4 Olympics Mutation EPOr gene

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# Unbeatable world records

Event	Record	2011 Best	Athlete	Nationality	Year
100 m	10.49	10.7	Florence Griffith	USA	1988
200m	21.34	22.2	Florence Griffith	USA	1988
400 m	47.6	49.35	Marita Koch	East Germany	1985
800 m	01:53.3	1.55.87	Jarmila Kratochvílová	Czechoslovakia	1983
1,500 m	03:50.5	4.00.06	Qu Yunxia	China	1993
Mile	04:12.6	4.29.59	Svetlana Masterkova	Russia	1996
3,000 m	08:06.1	8.46.84	Wang Junxia	China	1993
5,000 m	14:11.2	14.20.87	Tirunesh Dibaba	Ethiopia	2008
10,000 m	29:31.8	30.38.35	Wang Junxia	China	1993
100 m	12.21	12.28	Yordanka Donkova	Bulgaria	1988
400 m	52.34	52.57	Yuliya Pechonkina	Russia	2003
High	2.09 m	2.07m	Stefka Kostadinova	Bulgaria	1987
Long	7.52 m	7.19m	Galina Chistyakova	Soviet Union	1988
Shot put	22.63 m	21.24m	Natalya Lisovskaya	Soviet Union	1987
Discus	76.80 m	67.98	Gabriele Reinsch	East Germany	1988
Heptathl	7,291 pts	6880pts	Jackie Joyner-Kersee	USA	1988

#### Gene doping



"the non-therapeutic use of cells, genes, genetic elements, or of the modulation of gene expression, having the capacity to improve athletic performance".

> Schematic of how genes are inserted into deactivated virus's then injected into muscles Available from http://sgugenetics.pbworks.com/w/page/38371765/Gene%20Therapy



Gene doping

What would you alter to increase sporting performance ?

• 187 genes known to be linked to athleticism

### Gene doping



### "Schwarzenegger mice" Follistatin transgenes **IGF-1: Muscle function EPO-blood** production Images of muscles of control & Schwarzenegger mice Available from www.nature.com/nature/journal/v387/n6628/pdf/387083a0.pdf "Mighty mouse" Video of Mighty mice Available from **PEPCK-C** http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5hfXUVReySs

# Gene doping in sport



Do you think it is right to use genetic techniques to improve our athletic or sporting performance

- 1 = strongly disagree
- 2 = disagree
- 3 = agree
- 4 = strongly agree



# Gene doping in sport



Do you think that it is right to use genetic techniques to cure disease?

- 1 = strongly disagree
- 2 = disagree
- 3 = agree
- 4 = strongly agree









# Any questions, comments or final thoughts?



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# Mighty Mouse: The world's strongest mouse



Humorous gene doping video available from http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dRSsnbvfVY