



April, 9th, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the manuscript in Word format (file name: 2495-edited-revision.doc).

**Title:** Pre-participation screening for the prevention of sudden cardiac death in athletes.

**Authors:** Paolo Borrione, Federico Quaranta, Emanuela Ciminelli.

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Methodology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 2495

First of all I would like to thank you for the comments on the manuscript. Reviewers' advices surely improved its quality.

The manuscript has been modified accordingly to the suggestions of the reviewers:

1 The Israel experience has been added and the discrepancy in the results obtained has been discussed.

2 One table with advantages and disadvantages concerning the Italian and USA strategy has been added.

3 A second table with the different cost-efficacy trials has been added.

4 In Italy, sport physicians evaluate all athletes accordingly to the current Cardiologic Protocols for Competitive Sport's Qualification which indicates guidelines for all the cardiovascular diseases, including high risk early repolarization patterns, isolated left ventricle non-compaction as well as many other doubtful conditions. This specification has been added to the text.

5 The cost-benefit ratio per saved lives of the ECG screening is below \$ 50.000 which is a benchmark of the Public Health policy. Despite these observations, some US authors still discourage the adoption of ECG in routine PPS of young athletes since its cost seems to be excessive for the Public Health. This specification has been added to the text.

6 Possible legal and psychological ramifications of the pre-participation screening, with particular regard to false positive results have been discussed.

7 references 24, 46, 52, 53, 54 and 55 have been added.

8 The text underwent a grammar revision.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Methodology.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paolo Borrione', with a stylized, flowing script.

Paolo Borrione

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