Tennis Anti-Doping Programme
Therapeutic Use Exemptions

Capitalised terms in this Q&A shall bear the meaning ascribed to them in the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme or at the first point they are mentioned in these Q&A

What is a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)?
Tennis players, like all other people, may have illnesses or conditions that require them to take particular medications. If the medication a player is required to take contains a substance or involves a method that is on the Prohibited List, a TUE may be granted that enables that athlete to take the needed medicine without committing a doping offence under the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme.

Do I need a TUE?
Players are solely responsible for all substances that they ingest, including all medicines they take. Thus, it is crucial that all medication is checked for prohibited substances. Several resources exist, such as the 24-hour telephone hotline, which is dedicated to such enquiries (+46 8 555 10 999), National Anti-Doping Organisations and/or National Olympic Committees and other resources which may be found on the ITF website (www.itftennis.com/antidoping).

What are the criteria for granting a TUE?
The criteria are:

- The athlete would experience significant health problems without taking the prohibited substance or method;
- The therapeutic use of the substance would not produce an additional enhancement of performance other than that which might be anticipated by a return to a state of normal health following the treatment of a legitimate medical condition, and;
- There is no reasonable therapeutic alternative to the use of the otherwise prohibited substance or method.

Who grants TUEs?
The Tennis Anti-Doping Programme (TADP) uses a Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee (TUEC), which consists of independent experts in clinical sports and exercise medicine. The TUEC receives all requests for players with an ATP or WTA ranking, and is responsible for granting or declining these applications.

How do I apply for a TUE?
The player must obtain a TUE application form (see below), have their physician fill out the form, produce the required supporting documentation and send it to the IDTM Drug Information Centre (IDIC):

Telephone: +46 8 555 109 99
Fax: +46 8 555 109 95
E-mail: tennis@idtm.se

Applications that are not filled in correctly will be returned to the player and not considered by the TUEC until the errors and/or omissions are corrected. Players should keep a copy of the request, and a record of the transmission or acknowledgement of receipt.

Where do I find the forms for TUEs?
All TUE forms can be found on the ITF web site:
http://www.itftennis.com/antidoping/documents/index.asp

How long does an application take to process?
A Certificate of Approval is normally sent to the player within 72 hours from the receipt of a complete request. If this time is exceeded, players should contact the IDTM Drug Information Centre (IDIC).

Players should submit TUE applications at least 30 days before they wish to use the medication in question.

Will the information on my TUE application remain confidential?
All information contained in a TUE application will be kept strictly confidential. All members of the TUEC are required to sign confidentiality agreements.

How many types of TUE exist?
There is only one type of TUE.

Can the decision of the TUEC be overturned?
All TUE decisions are sent to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), whose own TUEC may reverse any decision. Conversely, a player whose TUE application is denied by the TUEC can appeal the decision to the WADA TUEC (at their own expense). A TUE application that is denied by WADA can be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) for a final decision.

When can I start using the medication and how long for?
TUEs are effective from the date that the player receives notification that the application has been granted. Players should not assume that their application will be granted, even for the renewal of an existing TUE. Any player that uses a Prohibited Substance prior to approval does so entirely at their own risk. All TUEs are granted for a specific period of time and so do expire. Before a TUE has expired, a new application must be submitted to permit continued use of the Prohibited Substance under the TADP.

Can I get a back-dated TUE?
TUEs are only retroactively approved for emergency treatment or exceptional circumstances.

What happens if the prohibited substance is detected during analysis?
When the report is received from the laboratory, an initial review will take place to verify that the substance is that for which you have a valid TUE, and

that the results of the analysis are consistent with the TUE granted. If this is the case, the result of your test will be recorded as negative.

This summary should not be used as a substitute for a full review of the current TUE procedures, which all players applying for a TUE or ATUE are strongly advised to do.