

UROPEAN FEDERATION OF SPORTS MEDICINE

ASSOCIATIONS



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Prof. Maurizio Casasco, MD

President, Italian Federation of Sports Medicine

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Dear President, Dear Maurizio,

On 5-6 February 2015 in Brussels, the European Federation of Sports Medicine will define at Continental level the Medical Guidelines for those engaged in physical and sporting activity.

Italy is the first country worldwide to have established a university school of specialization in sports medicine more than 50 years ago and it remains the leading point of reference.

In congratulating you as President of the Italian Federation of Sports Medicine for the protocols produced and the research studies which have been carried out also thanks to your legislation on pre-participation screening, I would like also to stress my appreciation for the decision of your Ministry of Health to consider the Electrocardiogram at rest compulsory in the medical screening to obtain the certification for non-competitive sports activities.

This wise decision will not only support the prevention of sudden cardiac deaths but will also benefit the health of the general population leading also to significant economic savings.

Once again, the European Federation will be able to cite Italy's example in ensuring the health protection of all those engaged in sporting activity, not only thanks to its legislation and medical protocols regarding pre-participation medical screening for competitive athletes, which have been an international milestone for sports medicine worldwide since ever, but also for the recent new protocols to obtain certification to practice non-competitive sports.

With my very best personal regards,

Dr. André Debruyne MD