## Steroids Were Found In Body Of Chris Benoit

Dr. Kris Sperry, <u>Georgia's chief medical examiner</u>, has revealed that professional wrestler Chris Benoit, who killed his wife and son before hanging himself, injected anabolic steroids not long before he died. The medical examiner also said the son of Chris was sedated before his death.

The 40-year-old wrestler, who was nicknamed "The Rabid Wolverine" and "The Canadian Crippler," as found dead with his wife, Nancy, and 7-year-old son, Daniel, on June 25, 2007 in their suburban Atlanta home.

Toxicology tests found drugs in all three Benoits, according to Dr. Sperry, who said elevated levels of steroid testosterone were found in the body of Chris Benoit and the anxiety drug Xanax was in the body of his 7-year-old son, Daniel.

The elevated level "is an indicator that he had been injecting testosterone, but how much, how frequently, how often and for how long is something that cannot be answered through this," Dr. Sperry said.

According to investigators, anabolic steroids were among prescription drugs found in the home of Benoit. The urine of Benoit had about 10 times the normal level of testosterone, which is a form of doping in sports. The wrestler's body also had traces of hydrocodone, a pain reliever, and Xanax and no other steroids were found.

The employer of Benoit, <u>@World Wrestling Entertainment</u>, made a statement that the professional wrestler had passed a random drug test in April.

The family physician, Phillippe Astin, M.D., who prescribed anabolic steroids to Chris Benoit in the year before the double murder-suicide went to trial on March 16, 2009 though there was not even a single charge related to anabolic steroids against him. The doctor faced charges of distributing and dispensing approximately one million dosage units of painkillers and stimulants classified as controlled substances, which included Percocet, Oxycontin, Demerol, Lorcet, Ritalin, Vicodin, Xanax, Klonipin, Methadone, Ritalin, Adderall, Dexedrine and Soma "for other than a legitimate medical purpose and not in the usual course of professional practice."

Chris Benoit was identified by DEA Diversion Investigator Anissa Jones as an "excess purchaser of injectable steroids" during a federal investigation of Rx Weight Loss in Marietta, Georgia. Prescription records obtained from Jones Pharmacy in Fayetteville, Georgia suggested that Chris Benoit was prescribed 10-month supply of testosterone cypionate every 3-4 weeks from May 4, 2006 to May 9, 2007 on the prescription of Dr. Phil Astin.

In February 2006, *Benoit received steroids from Signature*, based on a prescription by Florida physician Gary Brandwein. The steroid pharmacy was also supplying anabolic steroids to top wrestlers Randy Orton, Charles Haas, Jr., Adam "Edge" Copeland, Robert "Booker T" Huffman, Shane Helms, Mike Bucci, Anthony Carelli, John "Johnny Nitro" Hennigan, Darren "William Regal" Matthews, Ken "Mr. Kennedy" Anderson, Eddie "Umaga" Fatu, Shoichi Funaki, and Chavo Guerrero.

Over a period of approximately 30 months between December 13, 2004 and June 22, 2007, Chris Benoit was prescribed 5,580 tablets of Lorcet (10mg), 3,600 tablets of Xanax (2mg), and 1380 tablets of Soma

(350mg) while 3,690 tablets of Lorcet (10mg), 600 tablets of Xanax (2mg) and 240 tablets of Soma (350mg) between June 6, 2005 and May 30, 2007 to Nancy Benoit, his wife.