

Global DRO Seminar Held In Tokyo For Sports Pharmacists

The Japan Anti-Doping Agency (JADA) hosted the first formal [Global Drug Reference Online](#) (DRO) Seminar for more than 250 sports pharmacists on 16 December 2014.

This seminar included presentations from the representatives of the founding Global DRO partners that included the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES), UK Anti-Doping (UKAD), and the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA). In 2013, the Japan Anti-Doping Agency joined the Global DRO family and the December Global DRO Seminar was the first opportunity for sports pharmacists from Japan to find out how Global DRO has been implemented and developed by each international partner country as part of their [anti-doping programs](#).

Global Drug Reference Online is an online and mobile tools that allow athletes to check the prohibited or permitted status of licensed medication according to the latest [World Anti-Doping Code](#) Prohibited List. There were more than 486,216 searches in 2014 between the four partner countries that spoke about the effectiveness and popularity of the source.

USADA's Science Director Dr. Matt Fedoruk, highlighted the practical importance of Global DRO in his keynote speech. Fedoruk also illustrated the value of offering resources and education in the context of anti-doping rules to health professionals, including pharmacists and physicians, since they play a vital role in protecting clean athletes. Fedoruk remarked we are seeing a stronger need for close cooperation between the medical community and the anti-doping community in order to best protect clean athletes and sport. He went on to add that implementing clear and consistent processes and providing easy access to accurate information are important parts of any effective anti-doping program.

UKAD Medical Education Officer Anne Sargent said JADA should be applauded for engaging with sports pharmacists and recognizing the crucial role they play in protecting clean sport through the influence they have on athletes. Sargent added this inaugural conference provided an important platform to share best practice and for delegates to gain an increased understanding of Global DRO and its value in assisting athletes and

athlete support personnel and further remarked that UKAD is committed to continue working together with international partners to enhance anti-doping programs globally for the benefit of clean athletes.

JADA Chief Executive Officer Shin Asakawa said it is a delight to host this first Global DRO Seminar, opened to JADA's certified sports pharmacists. Asakawa added we have benefited as part of this international collaboration Global DRO team and also said we along with the JADA Sports Pharmacists System can strengthen a 'Clean Sport Triad' and ensure the athletes receiving the appropriate information at anywhere and anytime.

CCES Manager of Education and Technology Cori McPhail said Global DRO allows each of our agencies to support the training and competition schedules of our respective athlete populations with credible information they can access from anywhere. McPhail added JADA is the most recent member of the Global DRO family, but like those of us already involved, they have demonstrated a clear commitment to providing their athletes comprehensive and reliable information about the medication they may need to take.