

Three Pitchers Suspended By MLB For Use Of Banned Substances

Major League Baseball (MLB) has imposed drug suspensions on [Houston Astros](#) rookie David Paulino as well as minor leaguers Joseph Colon of Cleveland and Joan Gregorio of San Francisco.

Paulino, who is the only one presently in the majors, received a ban of 80 games after he tested positive for [Boldenone](#), an anabolic steroid. The suspension of Paulino started with Saturday night's game against the New York Yankees. Paulino has started six games for the first-place Astros this season, going 2-0 with a 6.52 ERA and 34 strikeouts in 29 innings.

In a statement, Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow said we are disappointed in the news regarding David Paulino. Luhnow added we hope this is a one-time incident and something David can learn from as he continues his career. The Astros general manager also commented that the Astros will continue to fully support Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

Colon tested positive for a synthetic drug whose effect is similar to that of Testosterone. The 27-year-old right-hander made his big league debut with the Indians last July 8 and was 1-3 with a 7.20 ERA in 11 relief appearances. Colon has a 4.13 ERA in 28 relief appearances this year at Triple-A Columbus.

Gregorio showed evidence of the [anabolic steroid Stanozolol](#). The 25-year-old Gregorio is 4-4 with a 3.04 ERA in 13 starts this year at Triple-A Sacramento. The 6-foot-7 starter was performing well for the Triple-A Sacramento and came close to being promoted more than once in June. Gregorio was even pulled from his warmups before a game in Las Vegas as the Giants weighed a move and he was likely to be in the team had he not injured his back a few days back. Gregorio was expected to replace Dan Slania but the chance has now been bagged by Chris Stratton who got the call and arrived in time for the game.

Both of them have been banned for the rest of the season.

This year, Pittsburgh All-Star outfielder Starling Marte and Philadelphia pitcher Elniery Garcia were banned under the major league drug program. In this year, there have been 47 suspensions under the minor league program.

Kansas City Royals catcher Mark Sanchez was recently suspended for 80 games under the minor league drug program of baseball following a positive test. The 22-year-old tested positive for the performance enhancing substance, Dehydrochloromethyltestosterone. Sanchez, a 35th-round draft pick last year, was hitting .206 with two RBIs in 11 games this season for Lexington of the Class A South Atlantic League.

Few weeks back, Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Jair Jurrjens was suspended for 80 games following a positive test for Testosterone that did not originate in his body. The 31-year-old right-hander is 4-3 with a 4.64 ERA in 10 starts and one relief appearances this season at Triple-A Oklahoma City. He has not appeared in a game since June 7. A native of Curacao, Jurrjens is a veteran of eight major league seasons and an All-Star with Atlanta in 2011. He is 53-38 with a 3.72 ERA for Detroit (2007), the Braves (2008-12), Baltimore (2013) and Colorado (2014).