



AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS PHYSICIANS

ABN 40 003 200 584

12 June 2003

Mr. Ian Denley
Health Advisory Section (MDP 100)
NH&MRC
GPO Box 9848
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Mr. Denley

Re: **NH&MRC Publication Review (your ref: 2002/058373)**

Thank you for your letter of 27 May 2003 regarding the review of the publications, *Boxing Injuries 1993*, *Head and Neck Injuries in Football: Guidelines 1994* and *Football Injuries of the Head and Neck 1994*.

The Australasian College of Sports Physicians recognises that each of these reports deals with a significant problem within the field of sports medicine that creates a high level of community concern. The role of the NH&MRC in addressing these issues would be of considerable benefit to the community.

All of the reports require major revision or rewriting due to the new evidence that has become available since their publication. A Medline review in each of these areas reveals many thousands of new publications in those respective fields, which makes the scope and findings of those reports now outdated and in many cases factually incorrect and potentially dangerous.

As both an expert body and stakeholder in this area, the ACSP recommends that the NH&MRC form new expert panels in each area with a brief to rewrite the reports using a more structured and evidence-based format. The ACSP recommends Dr Paul McCrory as its representative on those panels. Dr McCrory was previously involved in the original NH&MRC reports.

Yours sincerely

Dr Paul McCrory PhD FRACP FACSP
President

cc: Ms Florence Adofo-Kissi, ✓
Mrs Cathy Clutton
Centre for Health Advice, Policy and Ethics, NH&MRC



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16th July 2003

Mr Ian Denley
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NHMRC
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CANBERRA ACT 2601

Football Injuries of the Head & Neck
~~B. Head and Neck Injuries in Football 1994~~
Submission 2.
Australian Association of Neurologists

Dear Mr Denley

RE: NHMRC Publications

Thank you for your letter concerning NHMRC publications dealing with *Musculoskeletal Disorders in the Older Person and Sports Related Injuries*. I have forwarded these to experts in the field within the Australian Association of Neurologists. I attach the comments of Dr Helen Dewey regarding the publication "Musculoskeletal Disorders in the Older Person".

Dr Paul McCrory reviewed the publication, *Boxing Injuries 1993, Head and Neck Injuries in Football: guidelines 1994 and Football Injuries of the head and Neck 1994*. He recommended that all these reports require major revision or rewriting primarily due to the new and extensive range of scientific evidence that has been published in a medical literature on each of these topics.

Having considered this report the AAN recommends that the NHMRC form a new expert panel in each area to revise these publications. The AAN would recommend Dr McCrory as its representative on such panels. He was involved in the development of the prior reports.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Richard Macdonell
HONORARY SECRETARY

Cc MS Mandy Jones, Executive Officer, AAN

Summary of submissions received

Submitting body	Australian College of Sports Physicians (ACSP)
Submitting individual	Dr Paul McCrory
Position	President
Form of submission	Correspondence of 12 June 2003
Length	1 page
Key points made	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACSP recognises the report deals with a significant problem that creates a high level of community concern (p1). 2. The NHMRC's role in addressing the issue would be of considerable benefit to the community (p1). 3. The report needs revising or rewriting due to new evidence since its publication. Its scope and findings are outdated and in many cases factually incorrect and potentially dangerous (p1). 4. The NHMRC should appoint a new panel to rewrite the report using a more structured and evidence-based format (p1).

Submitting body	Australian Association of Neurologists (AAN)
Submitting individual	Richard Macdonell
Position	Honorary Secretary
Form of submission	Correspondence of 16 July 2003
Length	2 pages
Key points made	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The report needs major revision or rewriting due to the new and extensive scientific evidence (p1). 2. The NHMRC should form a new expert panel to revise the publication (p2).