



No. 31/2025

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

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|----------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Your reference | Your correspondence of | Our reference | Date         |
|                |                        | MEDI/ZBA      | 16 June 2025 |

### Medical information – pre-season 2025/26

Dear Sir or Madam,

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#### **NEW: UEFA Medical Regulations, 2025 edition**

At its meeting in Lausanne on 16 December 2024, the UEFA Executive Committee approved a new edition of the UEFA Medical Regulations, which will come into force on **1 July 2025**. The structure of the regulations remains the same, but the following amendments have been included to make them clearer and avoid having to update them each time the list of competitions changes:

#### **Definitions (updated)**

##### ***Senior competition***

*"The highest level of competition, where no age restrictions apply."*

➔ Inclusion of 'senior competition' in the definitions to clarify the rewordings below.

#### **Chapter II: Medical examination of players (updated)**

##### ***Article 3: Implementation in UEFA competitions***

*"3.02 The examinations and tests set out in Paragraph 5.02, in Annex A.2.4, in Article 6 and in Article 7 are mandatory for all players participating in all stages of all UEFA competitions except for the qualifying rounds of futsal competitions, youth national team football competitions and the UEFA Regions' Cup, where they remain strongly recommended."*

➔ Rewording to define the exceptions to the basic rule, without having to list the names of each individual competition.

##### ***Article 5: Medical examinations***

*"5.03 Special cardiological examinations must be conducted as set out in Annex A.2.3, in Annex A.2.4 and in Annex A.2.5."*

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- ➔ The three cardiological examinations have been split into three separate articles in Annex A, as only one of the three is mandatory for all competitions.

## **Chapter V: Minimum medical requirements (updated)**

### **Article 14: Ambulance**

*"14.01 One fully equipped ALS ambulance, staffed by at least one paramedic and a driver, must be present for the sole use of the players, team officials, referee team and match officers:*

- a. on matchday at the stadium/hall in all UEFA competitions;*
- b. for the teams' matchday -1 training sessions in all senior football competitions, with the exception of the Regions' Cup."*

- ➔ Rewording to define which competitions require an ambulance to be present at matchday-1 training sessions, without having to list the names of each individual competition.

### **Article 15: Medical staff**

*"15.02 The host is responsible for ensuring that one pitchside emergency doctor and stretcher team are present and in position at the latest from the time the teams arrive at the stadium/hall, until their departure:*

- a. on matchday in all UEFA competitions;*
- b. for teams' matchday -1 training sessions in all senior football competitions, with the exception of the Regions' Cup."*

- ➔ Rewording to define which competitions require a pitchside emergency doctor to be present at matchday-1 training sessions, without having to list the names of each individual competition.

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## **UEFA Minimum Medical Requirements (MMRs)**

The UEFA MMRs remain unchanged from last season. Host clubs and associations are reminded of the importance of complying with the MMRs. Failure to comply will result in the club or association in question being referred to UEFA's disciplinary bodies.

The Guide to MMRs and the UEFA Medical Regulations, which contain full details of the mandatory pre-competition medical examinations and MMRs, are both available to download from the medical documents section of UEFA's TIME platform.

MMR inspections on matchday-1 are only mandatory for certain matches. For matches where no official MD-1 inspection takes place, we also strongly recommend organising an unofficial MMR inspection ahead of matchday to verify that all items are present for the official matchday MMR inspection. This will ensure that, if any mandatory items are found to be missing, there is sufficient time to acquire them before matchday. The advanced life support (ALS) ambulance and stretcher teams do not have to be

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present for these inspections. Still, the pitchside emergency doctor (PED) and pitchside medical equipment must be present, and the medical room must be equipped.

Each MMR inspection must be conducted by the match delegate in collaboration with the host's chief medical officer (CMO), or equivalent.

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### **NEW: Minimum Medical Requirements for Spectators**

UEFA has developed recommended minimum medical requirements for spectators. While medical requirements for spectators remain the responsibility of the local authorities and are governed by their regulations, these new UEFA guidelines set out the minimum medical services to be provided by stadiums for the general public. The guidelines will be available on the TIME platform by the end of June.

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### **Pre-match/tournament medical information**

As per Articles 17 and 18 of the UEFA Medical Regulations, the club or association hosting a UEFA match or tournament must provide pre-match or pre-tournament medical information to the visiting team's medical staff and the UEFA match delegate at least two weeks before the match/tournament. If two weeks' notice is not possible due to the timeline (short-notice draw, back-to-back rounds, etc.), it must be sent to the visiting team as soon as possible. A template and a completed sample of the medical information form are available on the TIME platform for reference.

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### **Pitchside emergency briefing and form**

UEFA's pitchside emergency briefing and accompanying form aim to ensure that the on-site medical team fully understands how to respond to emergencies. It is the responsibility of the host CMO or equivalent to read the briefing to the rest of the medical staff before every match and to identify the roles of each member of the medical team.

The form should be filled out appropriately before every match and clearly displayed in the players' medical room. It must be visible to the match delegate during the MMR inspections on matchday-1 (if applicable) and matchday.

The briefing and form are available in the documents section of the TIME platform.

The pitchside emergency briefing will be conducted by UEFA's venue medical officer at all UEFA finals and final tournaments. Scenarios such as sudden cardiac arrest and spinal injuries will be thoroughly discussed to ensure that the roles of the pitchside emergency doctor, the ambulance crew, the stretcher teams and the participating teams' own doctors are clearly defined.

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Finally, the host's CMO or equivalent is responsible for introducing the pitchside emergency doctor to both teams' doctors, preferably in the tunnel, 60 minutes before kick-off. This introduction should in principle last no more than five minutes but include discussion of emergency procedures, roles and responsibilities and evacuation routes.

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## Concussions

### Concussion charter

As always, the concussion charter **must** be signed by the head coach, team doctor and president/CEO of every club and national team participating in UEFA competitions in 2025/26.

The concussion charter is available in the documents section of the TIME platform. We suggest that your key contact person collects the signatures of your club representative, head coach and team doctor on a single copy of the charter before sending it back to [medical@uefa.ch](mailto:medical@uefa.ch). The charter must be signed by every club and national team participating in any UEFA competition.

Concussion is a serious injury that needs to be managed and treated correctly. Although studies report a low incidence of concussions in football, every member of your team should know what to do in the event of a suspected concussion on the pitch. By signing this concussion charter, you are not only supporting UEFA's awareness campaign but also protecting your players' health in the event of concussion.

UEFA has been collecting information on all suspected head injuries reported by the delegates in all UEFA competitions. The medical unit is reaching out individually to the doctors of the teams concerned. We count on them to provide us with as much information as possible on these head injuries to strengthen our research.

### NEW: UEFA Guidelines for the On-pitch Assessment of Possible Head Injuries

UEFA has developed guidelines for the on-pitch assessment of possible head injuries to reduce the rate of head injuries that are missed during play and facilitate the best care for players as soon as possible. The guidelines include a stepwise process for recognising and removing players with potential traumatic brain injuries (TBI), most specifically concussions. The approach is not to diagnose TBI but to facilitate the screening process. Since TBI in sport is a highly dynamic field of research and other approaches may also be suitable, these UEFA guidelines are intended merely as minimum requirements for on-pitch assessments. UEFA, and specifically its head injury expert group, feel that it is important to provide some practical guidance in the interest of consistent care across European professional football. If any of the steps in the process produce positive findings, substitutions and appropriate emergency care must be initiated immediately.

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## Medical video review system

A medical video review system (MVRS) will be provided at all matches covered by video assistant referee (VAR) technology and feeds. Each team will receive a pitchside tablet enabling the medical team to review an incident from multiple angles instantly. This technology facilitates quick and accurate decision-making when treating a player, especially following a major incident.

Each team is responsible for nominating one MVRS operator with medical knowledge to be responsible for the tablet. This person must be able to review the incident and pass useful real-time information to the team doctor assessing and treating the player on the field. Please note that it is the team's responsibility to arrange their own radio system/earpiece to allow communication between the MVRS operator and the team doctor.

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While this letter will also be sent directly to clubs that qualify for UEFA competitions, we ask that associations ensure it is forwarded to all relevant staff and medical officials in charge of each of their national teams.

If you have any questions about the new regulations and guidelines, please contact [medical@uefa.ch](mailto:medical@uefa.ch).

Yours faithfully,

**U E F A**



Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

### Enclosures

- Medical Regulations, 2025
- UEFA Guidelines for the On-pitch Assessment of Possible Head Injuries

### Cc (with enclosures)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA Medical Committee
- UEFA Referees Committee
- UEFA National Team Competitions Committee
- UEFA Club Competitions Committee
- UEFA Youth and Amateur Football Committee
- UEFA Women's Football Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich