Asian Journal of Sports Medicine
Volume 13 · Issue 1 · e116382

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Sports Injury and Illness Epidemiology: Thailand Team Surveillance During the 30th Southeast Asian Games

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SUBMITTED	REVISED	ACCEPTED	DOI
23 May 2021	28 Sep 2021	24 Dec 2021	10.5812/asjsm.116382

About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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Contents

1 **Original submission** Referee 1, Referee 2, Associate Editor 2
2 **Revision 1** Referee 1 4
Authors' reply to reviewers 5
Reviewer and editor comments 12

1 Original submission

3 comments · 26 Jul 2021 – 5 Aug 2021

Referee 1 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 26 Jul 2021

Dear EIC,
Thank you for letting me review the manuscript entitled " Sports Injury and Illness Surveillance During 30th Southeast Asian Games: Why Lower limb and Respiratory system-related medical problems were the most prevalent in multi-sport events". This manuscript focuses on an interesting topic in the field of professional sport.
I think that if the authors wish this paper to be well considered by experts, some important points have to be clarified or fixed before we can proceed and positive action can be taken.

General Considerations:
• It seems that the authors need to clarify the methodology and characteristics of this study. While the first part of the topic suggests that this is a prospective study that describes injuries and illnesses during a tournament, the second part of the topic suggests that we should expect an analytic study. This inconsistency is also repeated in the methodology section, as the data analysis part mentions "to determine associations between" different variables. All these statements are far from the aim of the study. These conflicts confuse readers of the manuscript.
• The main objective of the manuscript is "to investigate the incidence and mechanism of sports injury and illness during the Philippine 2019 SEA games", but in the results, there are no data about the mechanism of injury.
• There is no information about the ethical approval for the study; please clarify this.

Detailed considerations:
1) Topic: Please modify it according to the aims of the study.
2) Keywords: Keywords are not selected from the MESH system.
3) Objectives: Please write the results and discussion according to the aims of the study.
Methods:
• Please add all the information about the event, i.e., time, location, and weather.
• Please explain more about the online form here, not in the discussion (Line 187). If you employ a form that was previously used in other studies, please cite it correctly (reference No. 9 needs a correction).
• Please review and rewrite the data analysis part.
5) Results:
• Please sort table 1 according to contact and non-contact SPORTS.
• Please report the nature of INJURIES (contact or non-contact) in the results.
6) Discussion:
• Line 149: Do not use abbreviations without giving the full name at first use (BMX).
• Please explain more about the need for medical attention in CHESS players.
• Discuss the limitations of your study.
7) References: Use the AsJSM template.

Referee 2 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 3 Aug 2021

Dear author
Please provide keywords based on MeSH terms.

Introduction
Please provide more information about the necessity, novelty, and implications of the study objective.

Method
Please provide the ethical code for the study from the institution responsible for issuing it.

Discussion
Please add the limitations of your study and a conclusion based on the findings of this study.

Associate Editor

MAJOR REVISION 5 Aug 2021

Dear Htet Zayar,
Thank you for submitting your manuscript to AsJSM for consideration for publication. The first round of peer review of your manuscript is complete. There are comments and suggestions from two peer reviewers embedded in this letter (see below). Overall, the subject of this paper is interesting and relevant to the readership of this journal. However, various issues require the authors' attention and revision before a final editorial decision can be made. At this time, your manuscript is not yet acceptable for publication and needs major revision.
If you can suitably address the reviewers' concerns, then I invite you to revise and resubmit your manuscript. Please carefully address all of the issues raised in the comments.
To submit your revision, please go to http://asjsm.com/. I look forward to receiving your revised manuscript.
Sincerely,

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

We thank the reviewer for their comments. We have made a number of changes to the manuscript and have addressed the comments on a point by point basis below.

Reviewer 1:

General Considerations:

• It seems that the authors need to clarify the methodology and characteristics of this study. While the first part of the topic hints we are facing a prospective study that describe injuries and illnesses during a tournament, the second part of the topic indicates that we will expect an analytic study. This inconsistency is also repeated in the methodology section, as mentioned in the data analysis part "to determine associations between" different variables. All these statements are far from the aim of the study. These conflicts make the readers of the manuscript confused.

• The main objective of the manuscript is "to investigate the incidence and mechanism of sports injury and illness during the Philippine 2019 SEA games", but in results, there is no data about the mechanism of injury.

• There is no information about the ethical approval for the study; Please clear it up.

Author Response:

We have now change the title name “Sports Injury and Illness Epidemiology: Thailand Team surveillance during the 30th Southeast Asian Games” according to the main objectives. We have now included the following text to the discussion; ‘When it comes to mechanism of injury, the most common causes of injury in this study were contact with other athletes followed by overuse (sudden/gradual start). This is consistent with previous studies from the London and Rio Olympics (table 2) where contact with another athlete and overuse (sudden/gradual onset) were the most common causes of injury’. We have now included the ethical approval code in the method section; ‘the Central Institutional Review Board of Mahidol University (COA No. MU-CIRB 2019/194.0811).’

Detailed considerations:

1) Topic: Please modify it according to the aims of the study.

Author response;

We have now change the title name; ‘Sports Injury and Illness Epidemiology: Thailand Team surveillance during the 30th Southeast Asian Games’.

2) Keywords: Keywords are not selected from the MESH system.

Author response;

We have now changed the keywords according to the MESH system; ‘Epidemiologic studies, Athletic injuries, Surveillance.’

3) Objectives: Please write the results and discussion according to aims of study.

Author response;

We have now corrected the result and discussion section;

‘There were 84 injuries and 21 illnesses recorded within the Thailand team. This equated to an incidence of 86 injuries and 21 illnesses per 1,000 athletes. Considering all injuries, 56 were classified as requiring medical attention only, 26 causing time loss (i.e., performance restriction not over seven days) and two caused severe injuries (i.e., performance restriction over seven days). The most common cause of injury was contact with another athlete (37 % of total injury), followed by overuse (gradual/sudden onset; 26 %)’.

‘The overall incidence of injury in the present study was 86 injuries and 21 illnesses per 1000 athletes, respectively. This was lower than previously published injury and illness reports. For example, there were 128.8 injuries and 71.7 illnesses per 1000 athletes in the 2012 Olympics as well as 98 injuries and 54 illnesses per 1000 athletes in the 2016 Olympics (table 2). When it comes to mechanism of injury, the most common causes of injury in this study were contact with other athletes followed by overuse (sudden/gradual start). This is consistent with previous studies from the London and Rio Olympics (table 2)

where contact with another athlete and overuse (sudden/gradual onset) were the most common causes of injury'.

4) Methods:

• Please add the all information about the event i.e. time, location, and weather.

• Please explain more about the online form here, not in the discussion (Line 187). If you employ a form that was previously used in the other studies, please cite it correctly (reference No. 9 needs a correction.)

• Please review and rewrite the data analysis part.

Author response;

We have now included the following test in the method section; 'The 30th SEA Games was hosted at four clusters which are all located on the island of Luzon, Philippine, between November 30 and December 11, 2019. During the games, the average temperature was 26 degrees Celsius (range 21 to 30 degrees Celsius) with a humidity of approximately 77%. In addition, 14 outdoor sport competitions were rescheduled during the 30th SEA Games due to Typhoon Kammuri' and 'we then created an electronic report form using Google form based on the IOC injury and illness format.'

For the data analysis part, we have now changed writing; 'the summary measures of injury and illness incidence have been calculated according to the formula i=n/e, where n is the number of injuries or illnesses in competition, training or in total during the study period and e the respective number of exposed athletes. Incidence values presented as injuries/illnesses per 1000 athletes. This method was consistent with previous research that evaluated at injury and illness in major sporting events. The injury and illness incidence was presented as mean and RRs with 95% CIs. For all statistical analysis, the current study used IBM SPSS Statistics software, version 23.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY, USA).'

Reference No. 9 is our google form link so we put it out and added the reference London 2012 Olympic Summer Games Injury & Illness Surveillance Study in Reference No. 13.

'We then created an electronic report form using Google Forms based on the IOC injury and illness format'.

5) Results:

• Please sort table 1 according to contact and non-contact SPORTS.

• Please report the nature of INJURIES (contact or non-contact) in the results.

Author response;

We have now corrected the table 1 and reported the nature of injuries in the discussion section; ‘the most common cause of injury was contact with another athlete (37 % of total injury), followed by overuse (gradual/sudden onset; 26 %).’

6) Discussion:

• Line 149: Do not use abbreviations without the full name for the first time (BMX).

• Please explain more about need of medical attention in CHESS players.

• Discuss limitations of your study

Author response;

We have now included the following test in the discussion section;

‘Most of the injuries occurred in taekwondo, football, handball, bicycle motocross (BMX) and hockey sport.’

‘This study investigated injury and illness occurrences only for the Thailand team during the 30th SEA games. Furthermore, the method of data collection does not describe in detail risk factors of injury or illness, such as demographic, anthropometric, athletic exposure, health history and training history.’

For the chess players;

‘Chess players reported neck muscle spasms and no time-loss during the 30th SEA Games.’

7) References: Use the AsJSM template.

Author response;

We have now changed the references style (Vancouver-Kowsar-2018) according to the AsJSM template.

Reviewer 2:

Dear author

Keywords

Please provide keywords based on mesh terms

Author response;

We have now changed the keywords according to the MESH system; ‘Epidemiologic studies, Athletic injuries, Surveillance.’

Introduction

Please provide more information about the necessity, novelty, and implications of the study objective.

Author response;

We have now included the following text in the introduction section; ‘Epidemiological data will help with the planning and implementation of athlete healthcare, and the development of injury and illness prevention methods. It can assist in identifying characteristics of illness and injury, as well as provide insight into different methods and procedures being used minimize the risk of illness and injury. Therefore, the injury and illness surveillance procedure is a matter of concern to protect the athletes' health and to identify epidemiological information that can yield preventive measures.’

Method

Please provide the ethical code of the study from the institute responsible for that.

Author response;

We have now included the ethical approval code in the method section; ‘the Central Institutional Review Board of Mahidol University (COA No. MU-CIRB 2019/194.0811).’

Discussion

Please add limitations of your study and conclusion based on the findings of this study.

Author response;

We have now included the following text in the discussion section;

‘This study investigated injury and illness occurrences only for the Thailand team during the 30th SEA games. Furthermore, the method of data collection does not describe in detail risk factors of injury or illness, such as demographic, anthropometric, athletic exposure, health history and training history.’

We have now included the following text in the conclusion section;

‘Injury and illness surveillance is the first step of the injury prevention model. From it, we can glean a lot of information. Our study confirms that the lower limb is the main site of injury in competitive sports. Contact with other athletes during competition as well as overuse during training are the most common causes of lower limb injury during competition. In addition, respiratory illness is quite common among competitive athletes. Hopefully these important facts can be used to develop protective measures that will help prevent injury and illness in multi-sport events. Future initiatives should include the development of preventive measures targeted for lower limb injury and respiratory illness’.

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 23 Dec 2021

Referee 1 Reviewer

ACCEPT 23 Dec 2021

Dear Editor in Chief
Thank you again for the opportunity to review this valuable manuscript. Based on reviewers' comments in the first round of peer review, it seems that the authors have addressed all the concerns raised as best as they could, and this study has been satisfactorily revised. I have no further concerns that require another revision.
Best regards