



I. FIFA MEDICAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

CONCEPT

“For the game. For the world.” FIFA is committed to improving the short and long-term health of the football players focused on prevention, optimizing performance and injury care. To achieve this aim, FIFA will recognize established *centres* that have demonstrated medical, educational, and research expertise in football. Recognizing these elite centres by official FIFA accreditation, the football community will know which centres have a history of commitment to football when the need for specialised services are required.

VISION AND AIMS

FIFA accredited Medical Centres of Excellence will promote injury prevention and the improvement of physical health, mental health and well being of the *football player* by:

- Fostering **collaborative relationships** with individuals, institutions and organisations to improve player health and support the mission of FIFA and F-MARC.
- Providing state of the art **clinical management** of football medicine issues including surgical and non-surgical expertise in musculoskeletal medicine for recreational through elite professional players of all ages and genders.
- Implementing (and collaborating with) applied ongoing and novel Research and Development within the framework and long-term strategy of F-MARC.
- Educating and training the next generation of clinical specialists and scientists committed to football medicine.

CRITERIA FOR BEING ACCREDITED AS A FIFA MEDICAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Each institution must submit a formal application dossier to be evaluated by the review committee of F-MARC. This dossier must address each of the following for consideration:



Applications for centre designation should be submitted from organisations with demonstrated leadership in the area of football medicine (local, regional, national and international). Clinical and research institutions which jointly apply, or facilities that wish to submit a joint application must demonstrate a formal, collaborative relationship.

CLINICAL EXPERTISE – (25 PTS, MINIMUM REQUIRED 15)

Must be an established *multidisciplinary* medical institution focused on and/or connected with established speciality institutions with clinical expertise in, but not limited to, musculoskeletal medicine, cardio-pulmonary medicine, sports medicine, orthopaedic surgery, physical medicine and rehabilitation, physical therapy, exercise physiology, and applied biomechanics at the specialist level of care.

TEAM PHYSICIAN – (20 PTS, MINIMUM REQUIRED 10)

The clinic and staff should have significant experience in management and care of football teams (national or club) during training, competition and responsibility for the overall health care of football players. Letters from national governing bodies and clubs should accompany the application as a demonstration of current, active involvement in the care of football players.

PREVENTION – (20 PTS, MINIMUM REQUIRED 10)

The staff should have experience and expertise in injury prevention, development and dissemination of practical programmes. Verification of experience in prevention programs might include, but not be limited to, published peer reviewed articles, programmes from prevention congresses that the staff has served as faculty, lay articles on sports injury prevention, other outreach methods on sports injury prevention, etc.

RESEARCH EXPERTISE – (15 PTS, MINIMUM REQUIRED 10)

The FIFA Medical Centres must be at the forefront of research in football medicine. The application must show evidence of a continuing research agenda clearly showing the development, execution and publication of scientific issues in sports medicine in general and in specifically in football medicine. The application should contain reprints of peer reviewed publications and the Centre's grantsmanship



history. A complete CV of the principle medical staff should accompany the application.

EDUCATION EXPERTISE – (15 PTS, MINIMUM REQUIRED 5)

A Centre should be a place where the next generation of sports medicine professionals are being trained. The application will need to show the nature and breadth of the training programmes for operative or non-operative football medicine (including fellowships and resident training programmes). This should also include the research productivity of the residency and fellowship programmes supported with reprints of research by trainees.

ABILITY AND EXPERIENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF FOOTBALL EVENTS – (5 PTS, NOT REQUIRED)

Though not required, an institution applying for Centre status would hopefully have experience in management of football tournaments on a local, regional, national and international basis. This might include actual match coverage at tournament or participating as a member of the committee organizing medical coverage for football tournaments.

DUTIES AND BENEFITS

- Serve as an officially FIFA accredited referral centre for football players
- Serve as a local liaison with FIFA and F-MARC
- Participate in effective communication and implementation of the F-MARC mission and the clinical application of scientific results.
- Function as a regional centre and resource in the worldwide network of FIFA Medical Officers and FIFA Doping Control Officers as needed
- Conduct independent and collaborative research studies with F-MARC and other Centres, according to the centre's expertise and become a team player in the global research strategy in football medicine. This might include, but does not guarantee, the possibility of grant funding from F-MARC.
- To provide educational activities for communities within the framework of the FIFA Development Division, e.g. serve as local faculty for FUTURO III Football Medicine courses or other educational programmes.

II. FIFA MEDICAL CLINICS OF EXCELLENCE



CONCEPT

“For the game. For the world.” FIFA is committed to improving the short and long-term health of the football players. To achieve this aim, FIFA will recognize established *clinics* that have demonstrated medical expertise in football and commitment to the game. Medical practices with the FIFA Medical Clinic accreditation will serve the local football community with state of the art medical are as well as liaison with the more specialized and research orientated FIFA Medical Centres.

VISION AND AIMS

FIFA accredited Medical Clinics of Excellence will promote injury prevention and the improvement of physical health, mental health and well being of the *football player* by:

- Fostering collaborative relationships with individuals, institutions and organisations to improve player health and support the mission of FIFA and F-MARC.
- Providing state of the art clinical management of football medicine issues including surgical and non-surgical expertise in musculoskeletal medicine for recreational through elite professional players of all ages and genders.
- Carrying out (and collaborating with) ongoing and novel Research and Development within the framework and long-term strategy of F-MARC.
- Educating and training the next generation of clinical specialists and scientists committed to football

CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION AS A FIFA MEDICAL CLINIC OF EXCELLENCE

Each institution must submit a formal application dossier to be evaluated by the review committee of F-MARC. This dossier must address each of the following for consideration:

Applications for clinic designation should be submitted from organisations with demonstrated experience in the area of football medicine. Should two or more clinics wish to submit a joint application, there must be joint letters from the clinic administration confirming a formal, collaborative relationship.

CLINICAL EXPERTISE – (25 PTS, MINIMUM REQUIRED 15)



Must be an established medical institution focused on and/or connected with established speciality institutions with clinical expertise in, but not limited to, musculoskeletal medicine, cardio-pulmonary medicine, sports medicine, orthopaedic surgery, physical medicine and rehabilitation, and physical therapy.

TEAM PHYSICIAN – (20 PTS, MINIMUM REQUIRED 10)

The clinic and staff should have significant experience in management and care of football teams during training, competition and responsibility for the overall health care of football players. Letters from affiliated teams and clubs should accompany the application as a demonstration of current, active involvement in the care of football players.

DUTIES AND BENEFITS

- Serve as an officially FIFA accredited local, regional or national referral centre for football players
- Serve as a local liaison with FIFA and F-MARC
- Participate in effective communication and implementation of the F-MARC mission and the clinical application of scientific results.
- Function as a regional centre and resource in the worldwide network of FIFA Medical Officers and FIFA Doping Control Officers as needed
- To provide educational activities for communities within the framework of the FIFA Development Division, e.g. serve as local faculty for FUTURO III Football Medicine courses or other educational programmes.

III. APPLICATION PROCESS

The application will be prepared on the FIFA application form (appendix 1) and submitted to the FIFA Medical office prior 15th January or 15th July of each year. The application must include the full CV of the principle medical personnel pertinent to the dossier. Finally, the dossier needs to include all the necessary material to support each bullet point in the criteria section above.



The initial review of applications will be by the F-MARC review committee. Complete applications will be forwarded to FIFA administration and the FIFA Sports Medical Committee for further review. If the F-MARC review committee deems the application to be incomplete, it will be returned for completion, resubmission and review at the next deadline.

Accreditation is given for 5 years. Every institution must apply for re-accreditation within 6 months prior the expiration of their accreditation.



Appendix 1:

FIFA MEDICAL CENTRE APPLICATION

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

PRIMARY INSTITUTION (Institution #1)	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Director's Name::	
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)	
Ownership Type: (e.g., State, Corporation, Church)	
Brief Educational Rationale:	

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION (Institution #2)	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Director's Name::	
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)	
Ownership Type: (e.g., State, Corporation, Church)	
Brief Educational Rationale:	

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION (Institution #3)	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Director's Name::	
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)	
Ownership Type: (e.g., State, Corporation, Church)	



Brief Educational Rationale:	
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SECTION 1. CLINICAL EXPERTISE – DISCIPLINES

Speciality institutions with clinical expertise:

Specialty	Director	Patients / year	Main characteristics of patients (age, gender, amateurs/professionals, main diagnoses, clubs, teams etc.)
Musculoskeletal medicine			
Cardiopulmonary medicine			
Sports medicine			
Orthopaedic surgery			
Physical medicine and rehabilitation			
Physical therapy			
Exercise physiology			
Applied biomechanics			

SECTION 2. TEAM PHYSICIAN EXPERIENCE*

Name and Type of Football Team	Team physician	Responsibilities

* Letters from national governing bodies or clubs confirming current active involvement to be attached

SECTION 3. PREVENTION*

Name and Type of Programme	Responsible	Short description and outreach

* Published articles in peer reviewed journals, lay articles on sports injury prevention, other outreach methods to be attached



SECTION 4. RESEARCH EXPERTISE

1. Research projects in sports/football medicine

Title of project	
Aim/hypothesis	
Study population	
Study design and methods	
Timeframe	
Funding	

2. Publications in peer reviewed journals

- List of publications from the institutions

Authors	Title	Reference

- Reprints of publications (optional)
- Complete CV of principal medical staff under Faculty/teaching staff

SECTION 5. EDUCATION EXPERTISE

General Information	
Institution Name	
Institution's Director	

Residents	Length of rotation in months	Total # of residents per year	# present at any one time
From this program			



TOTALS			

Fellows List name and type of fellowship	Length of fellowship	Current # of fellows

FACULTY / TEACHING STAFF

Principle medical staff curriculum vitae – Complete for each teaching staff member one page only.

First Name:	MI:	Last Name:
Present Position:		
Medical School Name:		
Specialty/Field	Date From:	To:

Academic Appointments – List the past ten years, beginning with your current position.		
Start Date	End Date	Description of Position(s)
	Present	

<p>Current Professional Activities / Committees (Limit of 10):</p>
<p>Selected Bibliography – Most representative Peer Reviewed Publications / Journal Articles from the last 5 years (limit of 10):</p>



Selected Review Articles, Chapters and/or Textbooks (Limit of 5):
Participation in Local, Regional, and National Activities / Presentations (Limit of 5):
Concise Summary of Role in the Football Medicine Programme:

SECTION 6. MANAGEMENT OF FOOTBALL EVENTS

Event (Name, local, regional, national, international)	Size (no of matches, players)	Function (match coverage, organising committee etc.)

OPTIONAL: OTHER FOOTBALL RELATED PROGRAMMES

Date:
Title of Programme:

Programme Director Information

Name:		
Title:		
Address:		
City, State, Zip code:		
Telephone:	FAX:	Email:

SPONSORING INSTITUTION: (The university, hospital, or foundation that has ultimate responsibility for this programme.)	
Name of Sponsor:	
Address:	



City, State, Zip code:
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)

Please attach a short narrative description of the aim and concept of the programme.



FIFA MEDICAL CENTRE APPLICATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Primary Institution

1. Provide an institutional statement that commits the necessary financial, educational and human resources to support the football medicine programme(s) and provide documentation that the statement has been approved by the governing body, the administration and the teaching staff (Supplement I).

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF INSTITUTIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

The questions which follow provide institutions with an opportunity to systematically describe the manner in which they comply with the F-MARC accreditation requirements . Responses should be **concise and focused**.

Describe the manner in which the institution will comply with the different requirements for a accreditation as outlined above:

1. Clinical expertise: listed above. Describe activities and procedures ensuring the multidisciplinary approach of the institution and the respective clinical expertise in all the specialities
2. Team physician: Describe the activities of the institution in the care of players and teams.
3. Prevention: Describe the different prevention programmes actively run by the institution, their research background, their outreach and concept and the methods for evaluation of outcome.
4. Research expertise: Summarize activity in research and other scholarly activity, describe the facilities and resources (including space, equipment, support personnel, funding) that will be utilized to support research.
5. Education expertise: Limiting your summary to one page, provide a concise overview of the educational programme, highlighting key inpatient and outpatient facilities, didactic activities, research activity, and any unique features of the programme.
6. Ability and experience in management of football events: Describe in short your institutions experience with football competitions on all levels.



SUPPLEMENT I. INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT

Provide an institutional statement that commits the necessary financial, educational and human resources to support the sports and football medicine programme(s) and provide documentation that the statement has been approved by the governing body, the administration and the teaching staff.



FIFA MEDICAL CLINIC APPLICATION

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

PRIMARY INSTITUTION (Institution #1)	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Director's Name::	
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)	
Ownership Type: (e.g., State, Corporation, Church)	
Brief Educational Rationale:	

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION (Institution #2)	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Director's Name::	
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)	
Ownership Type: (e.g., State, Corporation, Church)	
Brief Educational Rationale:	

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION (Institution #3)	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Director's Name::	
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)	
Ownership Type: (e.g., State, Corporation, Church)	
Brief Educational Rationale:	



SECTION 1. CLINICAL EXPERTISE – DISCIPLINES

Speciality institutions with clinical expertise:

Specialty	Director	Patients / year	Main characteristics of patients
Musculoskeletal medicine			
Cardiopulmonary medicine			
Sports medicine			
Orthopaedic surgery			
Physical medicine and rehabilitation			
Physical therapy			
Exercise physiology			
Applied biomechanics			

SECTION 2. TEAM PHYSICIAN EXPERIENCE*

Name and Type of Football Team	Team physician	Responsibilities

* Letters from national governing bodies or clubs confirming current active involvement to be attached

OPTIONAL: OTHER FOOTBALL RELATED PROGRAMMES

Date:

Title of Programme:

Programme Director Information

Name:



Title:		
Address:		
City, State, Zip code:		
Telephone:	FAX:	Email:

SPONSORING INSTITUTION: (The university, hospital, or foundation that has ultimate responsibility for this program.)	
Name of Sponsor:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip code:	
Type of Institution: (e.g., Teaching Hospital, General Hospital, Medical School)	

Please attach a short narrative description of the aim and concept of the programme.

FIFA MEDICAL CLINIC APPLICATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Primary Institution

1. Provide an institutional statement that commits the necessary financial, educational and human resources to support the football medicine programme(s) and provide documentation that the statement has been approved by the governing body, the administration and the teaching staff (Supplement II).

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF INSTITUTIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

The questions which follow provide programs with an opportunity to systematically describe the manner in which they comply with accreditation requirements . Responses should be **concise and focused**.

Describe the manner in which the program will comply with the different requirements for a accreditation as outlined above:

1. Clinical expertise: Describe activities and procedures ensuring the multidisciplinary



- approach of
the institution and the respective clinical expertise in all the specialities listed above.
2. Team physician: Describe the activities of the institution in the care of players and teams.

SUPPLEMENT I. INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT

Provide an institutional statement that commits the necessary financial, educational and human resources to support the sports and football medicine programme(s) and provide documentation that the statement has been approved by the governing body, the administration and the teaching staff.