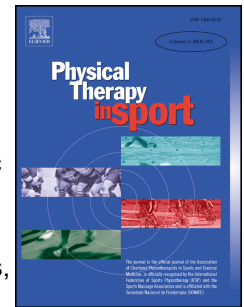


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# Preparation and Organization of the Brazilian Physical Therapy for Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games

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## Introduction

The Olympic Games is the major sport event in the world. Moreover, the Olympic Games are by several measures the world's premiere sports event for elite athletes.<sup>1</sup> A worldwide audience of 4.8 billion people watched the 2012 London Olympic Games.<sup>2</sup> Two-hundred and forty countries participated in Rio 2016 Olympic Games and 10.500 athletes competed. From the 10.568 athletes who took part in the London Olympic Games, 11% sustained at least one injury (n=1.190).<sup>3</sup> There were 114, 18 and 7 athletes with two, three and four injuries, respectively.<sup>3</sup> Musculoskeletal disorders corresponded to 52% (n=1.457) of all athletes seeking medical attention for injuries and illnesses sustained in both competition and training during the London Olympic games.<sup>4</sup> Physical Therapy (PT) services had more than 5,000 athletes attend during the London Olympic Games.<sup>4,5</sup> Considering this high number of sports injuries, PT services will have an important role in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

The peak usage of many of the facilities during the Olympic Games happens around days 9 and 10 of the competition. This is when there is the greatest number of event finals occurring and the athlete's village is at its busiest.<sup>4</sup> The organization of the PT services are necessary before and

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