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Urinary incontinence among adolescent female athletes

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**Summary** 

**Background** 

A collection of studies have demonstrated that approximately one-third of female nulliparous athletes

experience urinary incontinence during their athletic activities. Contributing factors of incontinence

that have thus far been the focus of study include type of sport, duration and intensity of athletic

activity, use of hormonal contraception, and weight. There has, as yet, been a notable underemphasis

on several other factors which influence incontinence, including bowel pattern, urinary habits, and

menstrual status. The purpose of this pilot study was to describe the urinary habits and frequency of

incontinence among adolescent female athletes. A secondary purpose was to identify factors associated

with incontinence.

Methods

To investigate these factors, a questionnaire was completed by 44 female high school athletes.

Descriptive statistics were used, including means and percentages to answer the first purpose of our

study. Chi-square tests and effect sizes were employed to determine the magnitude and statistical

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