

# The relationship between the female athlete triad and injury rates in collegiate female athletes

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**Background** This study aimed to clarify the relationship between the Triad risk assessment score and the sports injury rate in 116 female college athletes in 7 sports at the national level of competition. **Methods** Bone mineral density (BMD) was measured on the heel of the right leg using an ultrasonic bone densitometer. Those with menstrual deficiency for >3 months or <6 menses in 12 months were classed as amenorrheic athletes. Low energy availability was defined as  $BMI \leq 17.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$ . Low BMD was defined as a BMD Z-score  $< -1.0$ . The total score for each athlete was calculated, and the cumulative risk of stress fractures was defined as follows: a total score of 0-1 was low risk, a score of 2-5 was moderate risk, and a score of 6 was high risk. The injury survey recorded injuries referring to the injury survey items used by the International Olympic Committee. **Results** In swimming, significantly more athletes were in the low-risk category than in the moderate and high-risk categories. In athletics long-distance, significantly more athletes were in the moderate-risk category than in the low and high-risk categories. In the moderate and high-risk categories, significantly more athletes were in the injury group, whereas significantly more athletes in the low-risk category were in the non-injury group. Significantly more athletes at moderate and high risk had bone stress fractures and bursitis than athletes at low risk. **Discussion** Though this was not a prospective study, it suggested that athletes with relative energy deficiency in sport may be at increased injury risk.

1 **The relationship between the female athlete triad and injury rates in collegiate female**  
2 **athletes**

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## Abstract

### 29 **Background**

30 This study aimed to clarify the relationship between the Triad risk assessment score and the  
31 sports injury rate in 116 female college athletes in 7 sports at the national level of competition.

### 32 **Methods**

33 Bone mineral density (BMD) was measured on the heel of the right leg using an ultrasonic bone  
34 densitometer. Those with menstrual deficiency for >3 months or <6 menses in 12 months were  
35 classed as amenorrheic athletes. Low energy availability was defined as BMI  $\leq 17.5$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>. Low  
36 BMD was defined as a BMD Z-score  $< -1.0$ . The total score for each athlete was calculated, and  
37 the cumulative risk of stress fractures was defined as follows: a total score of 0-1 was low risk, a  
38 score of 2-5 was moderate risk, and a score of 6 was high risk. The injury survey recorded  
39 injuries referring to the injury survey items used by the International Olympic Committee.

### 40 **Results**

41 In swimming, significantly more athletes were in the low-risk category than in the moderate and  
42 high-risk categories. In athletics long-distance, significantly more athletes were in the moderate-  
43 risk category than in the low and high-risk categories. In the moderate and high-risk categories,  
44 significantly more athletes were in the injury group, whereas significantly more athletes in the  
45 low-risk category were in the non-injury group. Significantly more athletes at moderate and high  
46 risk had bone stress fractures and bursitis than athletes at low risk.

### 47 **Discussion**

48 Though this was not a prospective study, it suggested that athletes with relative energy  
49 deficiency in sport may be at increased injury risk.

50

51 **Key words:** RED-S; low energy availability; The Female Athlete Triad Cumulative Risk  
52 Assessment



## 54 Introduction

55 The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) defined the female athlete triad  
56 (hereafter referred to as triad) in 1997 and updated it in 2007 and 2014.(De Souza et al. 2014a;  
57 Nattiv et al. 2007) The Triad has three components: (a) low energy availability (LEA) with or  
58 without disordered eating (DE)/eating disordered (ED); (b) menstrual dysfunction; and (c) low  
59 bone mineral density (BMD).(De Souza et al. 2014a) The International Olympic Committee (IOC)  
60 suggested that relative energy deficiency in sport (RED-S) affects growth, mental conditioning,  
61 cardiovascular function, immunity, and BMD, resulting in decreased overall performance. Both  
62 RED-S and the Triad emphasize the importance of appropriate energy intake to support  
63 exercise.(De Souza et al. 2014b; Mountjoy et al. 2014; Mountjoy et al. 2015; Mountjoy et al.  
64 2018)

65 The advances in our understanding of risk factors and management of the triad are  
66 reflected in evidence-based guidelines developed by the Female Athlete Triad Coalition in 2014  
67 to help guide medical decision-making for female athletes.(De Souza et al. 2014a) The resulting  
68 Female Athlete Triad Cumulative Risk Assessment includes the following 6 items scored on a  
69 scale from 0 to 2: low LEA with or without DE/ED; low body mass index (BMI); delayed  
70 menarche; oligomenorrhea (6-9 periods in 12 months) or amenorrhea (<6 periods in 12 months);  
71 low BMD; and prior stress reaction/fracture.(De Souza et al. 2014a) The resulting risk  
72 assessment score is used to classify an athlete into 1 of 3 categories: low risk (0-1 points),  
73 moderate risk (2-5 points), or high risk (6 points).(De Souza et al. 2014a)

74 Using risk assessment scores to help manage treatment for athletes is important,  
75 especially considering the evidence for adverse health consequences resulting from the triad.  
76 For example, a higher number of triad risk factors is associated with an increased risk for bone  
77 stress injuries and low BMD.(Barrack et al. 2014; Gibbs et al. 2014; Tenforde et al. 2013)  
78 Furthermore, for female athletes who have one component of the triad, the risk of developing  
79 stress fractures is 2.5 times higher than that of athletes with no components of the triad; the risk

80 is 4.7 times higher for those with two or more components.(Mallinson & De Souza 2014) In  
81 addition, collegiate athletes with triad risk factors including oligomenorrhea/amenorrhea or  
82 increased risk assessment scores had higher grade bone stress injuries on magnetic resonance  
83 imaging and longer return to play.(Nattiv et al. 2013)

84 RED-S is based on a relative energy deficit and is reported to affect various  
85 factors.(Mountjoy et al. 2018) However, there are many studies of bone stress fractures and  
86 amenorrhea, and their relationships with the occurrence of sports injury have not been examined.  
87 It was previously reported that the frequency of sports injuries was higher in women than in men,  
88 suggesting a relationship between the menstrual cycle and sports injury.(Hewett et al. 2007;  
89 Park et al. 2009) It has been suggested that there is a strong relationship between the risk of  
90 both RED-S and sports injuries.

91 Therefore, this study aimed to clarify the relationship between the triad risk assessment  
92 score and the sports injury rate. The hypothesis of this study was that the moderate and high-risk  
93 groups have higher injury rates than the low-risk group on the triad risk assessment score.

94

## 95 **Materials and methods**

### 96 **Recruitment**

97 A total of 116 female college athletes were investigated; they were involved in 7 sports  
98 (swimming, athletics sprint, athletics long-distance, athletics throwing/jumping, soccer,  
99 basketball and volleyball). All sports were at the national level of competition. The Niigata  
100 University of Health and Welfare of ethical approval to carry out the study within its facilities  
101 (18032). The study content was fully explained to the subjects. Written, informed consent was  
102 obtained from all subjects.

### 103 **Medical examinations**

104 Medical examinations and anthropometry were conducted from August 2018 to January  
105 2019. The participants were asked about age at menarche, date of last menstrual period,

106 number of menstrual cycles per 12 months, history of bone stress fracture (site and times),  
107 dietary restriction, and present or past history of ED/DE using the questionnaire form. Those with  
108 menstrual deficiency for >3 months (definition of the Japan Society of Obstetrics and  
109 Gynecology) or <6 menses in 12 months were classed as amenorrheic athletes.(De Souza et al.  
110 2014a)

111

## 112 **Anthropometry**

113 Height (cm) and body weight (kg) were measured using a body composition monitor  
114 (DC150, TANITA, Tokyo, Japan). BMD was measured on the heel of the right leg using an  
115 ultrasonic bone densitometer (AOS-100SA, Hitachi Aloka Medical, Tokyo, Japan). The triad is  
116 defined as energy intake minus energy expenditure of exercise relative to fat-free mass (FFM)  
117 <30 kcal/kg of FFM/d(De Souza et al. 2014a), but it is too complicated to calculate energy  
118 balance this way during examinations. Alternatively, the ACSM defines LEA in adult athletes as a  
119 BMI  $\leq 17.5$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>.(De Souza et al. 2014a) Therefore, this criterion was used in the present  
120 study.(De Souza et al. 2014a) BMI was calculated as body weight (kg)/height (m<sup>2</sup>).

121

## 122 **The Female Athlete Triad Cumulative Risk Assessment**

123 The Female Athlete Triad Cumulative Risk Assessment, which was updated by the  
124 Triad coalition in 2014, was used.(De Souza et al. 2014a) The following six factors were scored:  
125 (a) LEA with or without DE/ED; (b) low BMI; (c) delayed menarche; (d) oligomenorrhea and/or  
126 amenorrhea; (e) low BMD; and (f) stress reaction/fractures. With respect to LEA, athletes who  
127 received treatment by a psychiatrist received a score of 2, those with some dietary restriction as  
128 evidenced by self-report or low/inadequate energy intake on diet logs received a score of 1, and  
129 those with no history received a score of 0. Athletes with a BMI  $\leq 17.5$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> received a score of 2,  
130 and athletes with a BMI between 17.6 and 18.4 kg/m<sup>2</sup> received a score of 1. A score of 0 was  
131 given to athletes with a BMI  $\geq 18.5$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>. For delayed menarche, athletes who had their

132 menarche at age >16 years received a score of 2, athletes who had their menarche at age 15-16  
133 years received a score of 1, and those with menarche at under 15 years received a score of 0.  
134 For athletes with amenorrhea (>3 months or <6 menses in 12 months) were scored 2, 6-9  
135 menses in 12 months were scored 1, and eumenorrheic athletes (>9 menses in 12 months) were  
136 scored 0. For low BMD, athletes with a Z-score  $\leq -2$  were scored 2, and those between  $-1$  and  
137  $-2$  were scored 1; a score of 0 was given to those over  $-1$ . For a history of stress fractures, those  
138 with a history of 2 or more stress fractures or trabecular bone stress fractures were scored 2,  
139 those with only one past stress fracture were scored 1, and those with no stress fractures were  
140 scored 0. Next, the total score for each athlete was calculated, and the cumulative risk of stress  
141 fractures was defined as follows: a total score of 0-1 was low risk, a score of 2-5 was moderate  
142 risk and a score of 6 was high risk.(De Souza et al. 2014a)

143

#### 144 **The injury rate**

145 An injury survey during sports activities was conducted for one season from April 2018  
146 to March 2019. The injury survey collected injuries that resulted in failure to participate in practice  
147 and competition for more than 24 hours after injury, referring to the injury survey items used by  
148 the IOC.(Junge et al. 2008) Data were collected by physical therapists.

149

#### 150 **Statistical analysis**

151 The chi-squared test was used to compare differences in the risk categories for each  
152 sport, to compare differences in the number of injuries by risk categories, and to compare  
153 differences in injured body part-location and the type of injury diagnosis by risk category. The  
154 level of significance was set at 5%.

155

## 156 **RESULTS**

### 157 **Patients' characteristics**

158 The sports undertaken by the participants were swimming (n=11), athletics sprint  
159 (n=19), athletics long-distance (n=8), athletics throwing/jumping (n=8), soccer (n=27), basketball  
160 (n=26), and volleyball (n=17).

161

### 162 **The three triad components**

163 There were 2/116 (1.7%) athletes with LEA with or without DE/ED (BMI  $\leq 17.5$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>),  
164 6/116 (5.2%) athletes with amenorrhea (>3 months or <6 menses in 12 months), and 0/116  
165 (0.0%) athletes had low BMD (Z-score <-1.0). No players had all three triad components.

166

### 167 **Prevalence of the 7 events for 116 athletes assigned to triad risk categories**

168 In swimming, there were significantly more in the low-risk category than in the moderate  
169 and high-risk categories ( $p < 0.05$ ). In athletics long-distance, there were significantly more in the  
170 moderate-risk category than in the low and high-risk categories ( $p < 0.05$ ) (Table 1). In each  
171 scoring category, there was a high proportion (41/116, 35.3%) with a history of bone stress  
172 fracture, particularly in athletics long-distance (7/8, 87.5%) (Table 2).

173

### 174 **Number of injuries and injury rates by triad risk categories (Table 3)**

175 Since there was only participant in the high-risk category, the high and moderate-risk  
176 categories were combined for the analysis. The number of injuries was 65 (n=41) in one year. In  
177 the moderate and high-risk categories, there were significantly more in the injury group than in  
178 the non-injury group ( $p < 0.05$ ). In the low-risk category, there were significantly more in the non-  
179 injury group than in the injury group ( $p < 0.05$ ).

180

### 181 **Injured body part location and type of injury diagnosis by risk category**

182 There was no significant difference in the injured body part location (Table 4). For stress  
183 fracture and bursitis, there were significantly more in the moderate and high-risk categories than

184 in the low-risk category ( $p < 0.05$ ) (Table 5).

185

## 186 Discussion

187 This study clarified the relationship between the triad risk assessment score and the  
188 one-year sports injury rate for female college students of multiple sports. To the best of our  
189 knowledge, there have been no studies of the relationship between the triad risk assessment  
190 score and sports injury rate.

191 In this study, there were 2/116 (1.7%) athletes with LEA with or without DE/ED, 6/116  
192 (5.2%) with amenorrhea, and 0/116 (0.0%) with low BMD. No athletes had all three triad  
193 components. In previous studies of elite Japanese athletes, the number of athletes with LEA was  
194 42/300 (14.0%), with amenorrhea was 117/300 (39.0%), and with low BMD was 68/300 (22.7%).  
195 Seventeen athletes (5.7%) had both amenorrhea and LEA, whereas 39 (13%) had both  
196 amenorrhea and low BMD, and two (0.7%) had low BMD and LEA. Sixteen (5.3%) had all three  
197 components of the triad. In previous studies of American collegiate athletes, the number of  
198 athletes with LEA was 2/323 (0.6%), the number with oligomenorrhea or amenorrhea was  
199 64/239 (26.8%), and the number with low BMD was 19/323 (5.9%). (Tenforde et al. 2017)  
200 Although the level of competition was different, the present female athletes were considered to  
201 be well managed.

202 In swimming, the number in the low-risk category was significantly higher than in the  
203 moderate and high-risk categories. In athletics long-distance, the number in the moderate-risk  
204 category was significantly higher than in the low-risk category. In a previous study, athletics  
205 (64/86; 74.4%), (Nose-Ogura et al. 2019) track (0/4; 0.0%), (Tenforde et al. 2017) cycling (3/4;  
206 75.0%), (Nose-Ogura et al. 2019) swimming (7/11; 63.6%), (Nose-Ogura et al. 2019) gymnastics  
207 (7/7; 100.0%) (Nose-Ogura et al. 2019) (9/16; 56.2%), (Tenforde et al. 2017) rhythmic gymnastics  
208 (31/35; 88.6%), (Nose-Ogura et al. 2019) and cross-country (23/47; 48.9%) (Tenforde et al. 2017)  
209 were in the moderate or high-risk categories. Although there is no clear consensus, it was

210 considered that there were many endurance and aesthetic sports athletes in the middle- and  
211 high-risk categories.

212 In addition, for each scoring category, there was a large proportion (41/116, 35.3%) with  
213 a history of bone stress fractures, particularly in athletics long-distance (7/8; 87.8%). In previous  
214 studies, female athletes were at a higher risk of bone stress fractures than male athletes.(De  
215 Souza et al. 2014a; Nose-Ogura et al. 2019) It has also been reported that the frequency of bone  
216 stress fractures among 1616 female Japanese athletes and 537 controls (non-athletes) was  
217 22.6% for athletes competing at the international level, 23.3% for athletes competing at the  
218 national level, 20.8% for athletes competing at the local level, 18.8% for athletes competing at  
219 other levels, and 4.3% for controls.(Takamatsu & Kitawaki 2016) Therefore, the athletes in the  
220 present study had a high rate of bone stress fractures. Furthermore, it was thought that one  
221 needs to carefully consider the reason why significantly more athletes were in the moderate-risk  
222 category than in the low-risk category in athletics long-distance.

223 Regarding the number of injured athletes by triad risk category, in the moderate and  
224 high-risk categories, there were significantly more athletes in the injury group than in the non-  
225 injury group. In previous studies, attention was paid to the relationship between the Female  
226 Athlete Triad Cumulative Risk Assessment and bone stress fractures.(Barrack et al. 2014; Gibbs  
227 et al. 2014; Mallinson & De Souza 2014; Tenforde et al. 2013) The IOC suggested that RED-S  
228 affects growth, mental conditioning, cardiovascular function, immunity, and BMD, resulting in  
229 decreased overall performance. In addition, the performance parameters identified in the RED-S  
230 conceptual model have been shown to be involved in increased injury risk.(Mountjoy et al. 2018)  
231 Though this was not a prospective survey, it suggests that athletes with RED-S may be at  
232 increased risk of injury.

233 Regarding the type of injury diagnosis by risk category, bone stress fracture and bursitis  
234 were significantly higher in the moderate and high-risk category than in the low-risk category. In  
235 previous studies, a higher number of triad risk factors was associated with an increased risk for

236 bone stress injuries and low BMD.(Barrack et al. 2014; Gibbs et al. 2014; Tenforde et al. 2013)  
237 Furthermore, for female athletes with one component of the triad, the risk of developing stress  
238 fractures was 2.5 times higher than that of athletes with no components of the triad; the risk was  
239 4.7 times higher for those with two or more components.(Mallinson & De Souza 2014) Therefore,  
240 this study was considered to have supported the results of the previous studies. However, it is  
241 necessary to examine bursitis in greater detail in the future.

242         Several limitations must be considered in this study. First, injury rates could not be  
243 calculated by 1000 athlete exposures. Second, the survey of injuries during sports activities was  
244 conducted for one season from April 2018 to March 2019, but medical examinations and  
245 anthropometry were conducted from August 2018 to January 2019. Therefore, this was not a  
246 prospective study.

247

## 248 **Conclusions**

249         This study clarified the relationship between the triad risk assessment score and the one-  
250 year sports injury rate for female college students of multiple sports. Regarding the number of  
251 injured athletes and injury rates by risk category, in the moderate and high-risk categories, there  
252 were significantly more athletes in the injury group than in the non-injury group. In addition, there  
253 were significantly more athletes in the moderate and high-risk categories than in the low-risk  
254 category with bone stress fractures and bursitis. This was not a prospective survey, but its  
255 results suggest that athletes with RED-S may be at increased risk of injury. In the future,  
256 prospective research was considered necessary.

257

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328

329 **Legend**

330

331 **Table 1. Numbers of athletes assigned to triad risk categories by event**

332 Data presented as n (%).

333 <sup>a</sup>p<0.05 vs. moderate and high risk category

334 <sup>b</sup>p<0.05 vs. low and high risk category

335

336 **Table 2. Number of low-, moderate- and high-risk athletes in each event by female athlete**

337 **triad coalition scoring category**

338 Data presented as n (%).

339

340

341 **Table 3. Injury rates by triad risk category**

342 Data presented as n (%).

343 <sup>a</sup>: p<0.05, Non-injury group in moderate risk (%)

344 <sup>b</sup>: p<0.05, Injury group in low risk (%)

345

346 **Table 4. Injured body part location by risk category**

347 Data presented as n (%).

348 Only items that occurred are listed.

349

350 **Table 5. Injury diagnosis by triad risk category**

351 Data presented as n (%).

352 Only items that occurred are listed.

353 <sup>a</sup>p<0.05 vs. low risk category in stress fracture

354 <sup>b</sup>p<0.05 vs. low risk category in bursitis

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**Table 1** (on next page)

Table 2. Number of low-, moderate- and high-risk athletes in each event by female athlete triad coalition scoring category

Data presented as n (%).

1 **Table 1. Numbers of athletes assigned to triad risk categories by event**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>No. of athletes</b>	<b>Low risk</b>	<b>Moderate risk</b>	<b>High risk</b>
<b>Swimming</b>	11	11 (100.0) <sup>a</sup>	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
<b>Athletics sprint</b>	19	13 (68.4)	6 (31.6)	0 (0.0)
<b>Athletics long-distance</b>	8	2 (25.0)	5 (62.5) <sup>b</sup>	1 (12.5)
<b>Athletics throwing/jumping</b>	8	7 (87.5)	1 (12.5)	0 (0.0)
<b>Soccer</b>	27	20 (74.1)	7 (25.9)	0 (0.0)
<b>Basketball</b>	26	21 (80.8)	5 (19.2)	0 (0.0)
<b>Volleyball</b>	17	14 (82.4)	3 (17.6)	0 (0.0)
<b>Total</b>	116	88 (75.9)	27 (23.3)	1 (0.8)

2 Data presented as n (%).

3 <sup>a</sup>p<0.05 vs. moderate and high risk category4 <sup>b</sup>p<0.05 vs. low and high risk category

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**Table 2** (on next page)

Table 2. Number of low-, moderate- and high-risk athletes in each event by female athlete triad coalition scoring category

Data presented as n (%).

1 Table 2. Number of low-, moderate- and high-risk athletes in each event by female athlete triad coalition scoring category

Category and risk	Swimming (n=11)	Athletic sprint (n=19)	Athletic long- distance (n=8)	Athletic throwing/ Jumping (n=8)	Soccer (n=27)	Basketball (n=26)	Volleyball (n=17)	Total (n=116)
<b>Low energy availability</b>								
Low	9 (7.8)	16 (13.8)	6 (5.2)	8 (6.9)	25 (21.6)	25 (21.6)	16 (13.8)	105 (90.5)
Moderate	2 (1.7)	3 (2.6)	2 (1.7)	0 (0.0)	2 (1.7)	1 (0.9)	1 (0.9)	11 (9.5)
High	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
<b>Body mass index</b>								
Low	11 (9.5)	16 (13.8)	7 (6.0)	7 (6.0)	26 (22.4)	26 (22.4)	17 (14.7)	110 (94.8)
Moderate	0 (0.0)	2 (1.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.9)	1 (0.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	4 (3.4)
High	0 (0.0)	1 (0.9)	1 (0.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (1.7)
<b>Age at menarche</b>								
Low	11 (9.5)	17 (14.7)	3 (2.6)	7 (6.0)	23 (19.8)	21 (18.1)	15 (12.9)	97 (83.6)
Moderate	0 (0.0)	2 (1.7)	4 (3.4)	1 (0.9)	4 (3.4)	4 (3.4)	2 (1.7)	17 (14.7)
High	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.9)	0 (0.0)	2 (1.7)
<b>Oligomenorrhea/ amenorrhea</b>								
Low	11 (9.5)	13 (11.2)	6 (5.2)	7 (6.0)	24 (20.7)	21 (18.1)	16 (13.8)	98 (84.5)
Moderate	0 (0.0)	5 (4.3)	1 (0.9)	1 (0.9)	1 (0.9)	2 (1.7)	0 (0.0)	10 (8.6)
High	0 (0.0)	1 (0.9)	1 (0.9)	0 (0.0)	2 (1.7)	3 (2.6)	1 (0.9)	8 (6.9)
<b>Low bone mineral density</b>								
Low	11 (9.5)	19 (16.4)	8 (6.9)	8 (6.9)	27 (23.3)	26 (22.4)	17 (14.7)	116 (100.0)
Moderate	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)

<b>High</b>	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
<b>Stress</b>								
<b>reaction/fracture</b>								
<b>Low</b>	11 (9.5)	10 (8.6)	1 (0.9)	6 (5.2)	18 (15.5)	20 (17.2)	9 (7.8)	75 (64.7)
<b>Moderate</b>	0 (0.0)	8 (6.9)	4 (3.4)	2 (1.7)	9 (7.8)	6 (5.2)	7 (6.0)	36 (31.0)
<b>High</b>	0 (0.0)	1 (0.9)	3 (2.6)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.9)	5 (4.3)

2 Data presented as n (%).

**Table 3** (on next page)

Table 3. Injury rates by triad risk category

Data presented as n (%). <sup>a</sup>:  $p < 0.05$ , Non-injury group in moderate risk (%) <sup>b</sup>:  $p < 0.05$ , Injury group in low risk (%)

1 **Table 3. Injury rates by triad risk category**

Kind of sport	Injury group (n=41)		Non-injury group (n=75)	
	Low risk (%)	Moderate and high risk (%)	Low risk (%)	Moderate and high risk (%)
<b>Swimming</b>	3 (7.3)	0 (0.0)	8 (10.7)	0 (0.0)
<b>Athletics sprint</b>	0 (0.0)	1 (2.4)	13 (17.3)	5 (6.7)
<b>Athletics long-distance</b>	0 (0.0)	3 (7.3)	2 (2.7)	3 (4.0)
<b>Athletics throwing/jumping</b>	2 (4.9)	1 (2.4)	5 (6.7)	0 (0.0)
<b>Soccer</b>	12 (29.3)	6 (14.6)	8 (10.7)	1 (1.3)
<b>Basketball</b>	5 (12.2)	2 (4.9)	16 (21.3)	3 (4.0)
<b>Volleyball</b>	4 (9.8)	2 (4.9)	10 (13.3)	1 (1.3)
<b>Total</b>	26 (63.4)	15 (36.6) <sup>a</sup>	62 (82.7) <sup>b</sup>	13 (17.3)

2 Date presented as n (%).

3 <sup>a</sup>: p<0.05, Non-injury group in moderate risk (%)4 <sup>b</sup>: p<0.05, Injury group in low risk (%)

**Table 4**(on next page)

Table 1. Numbers of athletes assigned to triad risk categories by event

Data presented as n (%). <sup>a</sup>p<0.05 vs. moderate and high risk category <sup>b</sup>p<0.05 vs. low and high risk category

1 **Table 4. Injured body part location by risk category**

Injured body part	Low risk	Moderate and high risk
Face (incl. eye, ear, nose)	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
Head	3 (4.6)	1 (1.5)
Neck / cervical spine	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
Lumbar spine / lower back	3 (4.6)	1 (1.5)
Shoulder / clavicle	2 (3.1)	0 (0.0)
Elbow	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
Wrist	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
Finger	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
Thumb	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
Hip	0 (0.0)	2 (3.1)
Thigh	4 (6.2)	2 (3.1)
Knee	11 (16.9)	2 (3.1)
Lower leg	4 (6.2)	1 (1.5)
Ankle	8 (12.3)	9 (13.8)
Foot/toe	3 (4.6)	0 (0.0)
Others (heatstroke)	2 (3.1)	1 (1.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>46 (70.8)</b>	<b>19 (29.2)</b>

2 Date presented as n (%).

3 Only items that occurred are listed.

**Table 5** (on next page)

Table 5. Injury diagnosis by triad risk category

Data presented as n (%). Only items that occurred are listed. <sup>a</sup>p<0.05 vs. low risk category in stress fracture <sup>b</sup>p<0.05 vs. low risk category in bursitis

1 **Table 5. Injury diagnosis by triad risk category**

<b>Injury diagnosis</b>	<b>Low risk</b>	<b>Moderate and high risk</b>
<b>Concussion</b>	4 (6.2)	1 (1.5)
<b>Fracture</b>	2 (3.1)	0 (0.0)
<b>Stress fracture</b>	0 (0.0)	4 (6.2) <sup>a</sup>
<b>Other bone injuries</b>	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
<b>Dislocation, subluxation</b>	5 (7.7)	1 (1.5)
<b>Ligamentous rupture</b>	2 (3.1)	0 (0.0)
<b>Sprain</b>	8 (12.3)	6 (9.2)
<b>Lesion of meniscus or cartilage</b>	3 (4.6)	0 (0.0)
<b>Strain / muscle rupture / tear</b>	4 (6.2)	0 (0.0)
<b>Contusion / hematoma/ bruise</b>	6 (9.2)	0 (0.0)
<b>Tendinosis / tendinopathy</b>	5 (7.7)	1 (1.5)
<b>Bursitis</b>	1 (1.5)	4 (6.2) <sup>b</sup>
<b>Muscle cramps or spasm</b>	1 (1.5)	1 (1.5)
<b>Nerve injury / spinal cord injury</b>	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
<b>Others (nail trouble, heatstroke)</b>	3 (4.6)	1 (1.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>46 (70.8)</b>	<b>19 (29.2)</b>

2 Date presented as n (%).

3 Only items that occurred are listed.

4 <sup>a</sup>p<0.05 vs. low risk category in stress fracture5 <sup>b</sup>p<0.05 vs. low risk category in bursitis

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