

Attitudes Towards Drug Screening in NCAA D-I Football Players: A Perspective from Athletic Trainers and Players

Department of Exercise Science, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC 28017

Paul Williams

Abstract

Purpose: The purpose of this study was to assess and determine the attitudes towards drug screening from athletic trainers (ATs) and D-I football players.

Methods: Participants within this study included 500 ATs and 15,611 football players who were randomly selected from the Southeastern, Atlantic Coast, BIG Twelve, BIG 10, and Pacific 12 Conferences. A quantitative survey research design was developed with twelve questions for both football players and ATs by using Qualtrics. The surveys asked closed ended questions that were used to assess and determine the attitudes of both through data analysis via Jeffrey's Amazing Statistics Program (JASP).

Introduction

- NCAA was made aware of deaths that were occurring among collegiate athletes due to drug and substance abuse in the 1970s
- NCAA started out with a Drug Education Committee in 1973 and it failed
- Stimulants, anabolic agents, depressants, diuretics, street drugs, and hormones are banned substance by the NCAA
- In 1986 the NCAA implemented randomized drug screening.
- Athletes can face several penalties for positive drug test, which include sitting out of games, suspension, and expulsion
- It was hypothesized that football players will react negatively towards drug screening because it is an invasion of their privacy. Secondly, it was hypothesized that ATs will react positively towards drug testing because it helps to protect athletes and keep competition equal.

Operational Definitions

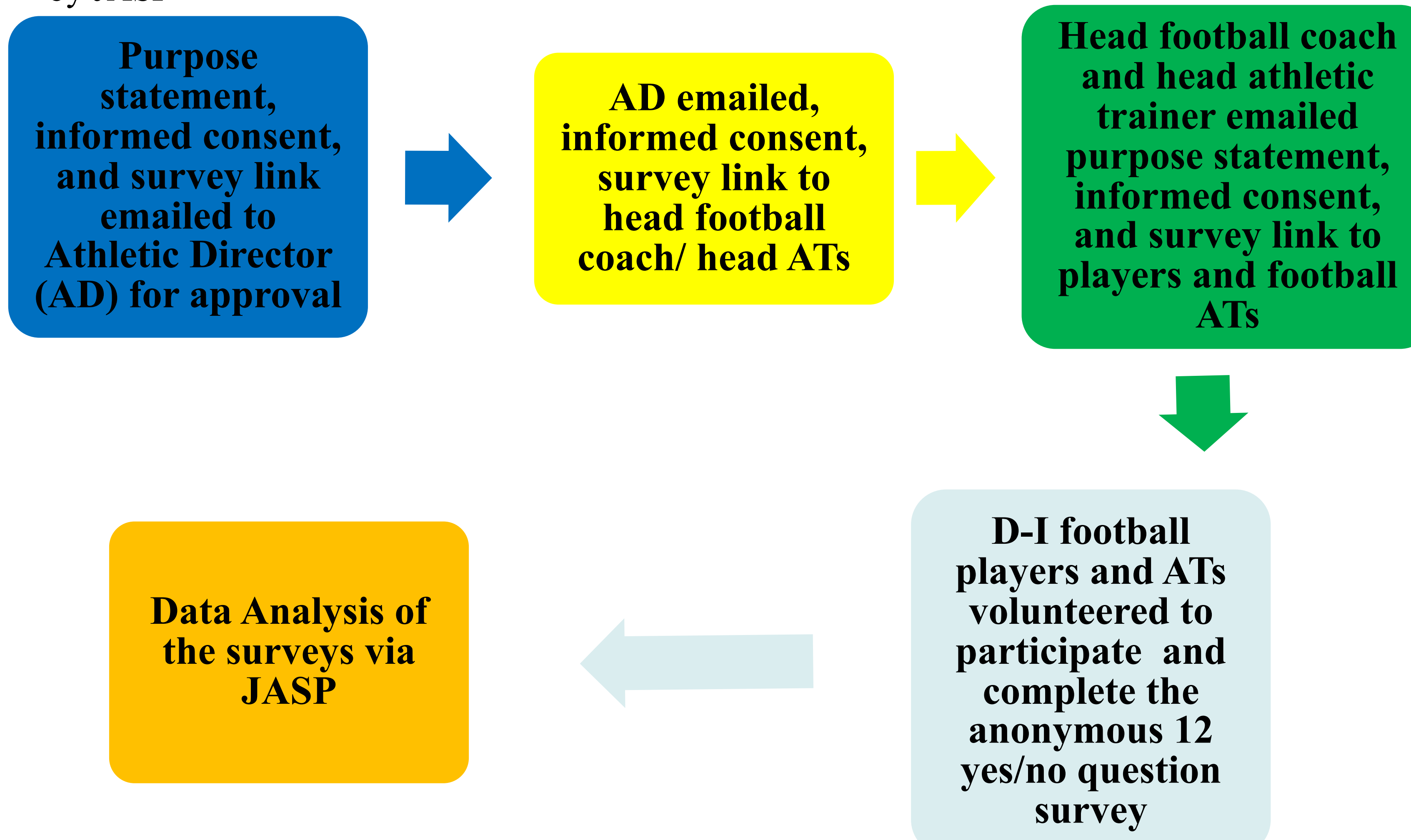
- Athletic Trainer:** healthcare professionals who works with a physician to provide, injury prevention, emergency care, diagnosis, and therapeutic/rehabilitation of injuries (NATA.org, 2021).
- Attitude:** a mental locus in which one reacts emotionally to a fact or state (Oldham, 2012).
- National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA):** an organization that governs and leads collegiate athletes to success (NCAA.org, 2021).



<https://www.webmd.com/drug-medication/ss/slideshow-drugs-false-positive-test>

Methods

- Quantitative Survey Research Design
- Approval through Gardner-Webb University IRB and informed consent obtained from participants
- 500 ATs and 15,611 D-I football players chosen randomly
- Independent variable = D-I football players and ATs
- Dependent variable= attitudes towards drug screening
- 12 question closed ended yes/no anonymous survey related to attitudes about drug testing for both D-I football players and ATs
- Averages, non-parametric data, and Spearman's rank-order correlation coefficient was calculated by JASP



SEC	ACC	BIG 10	BIG 12	PAC 12
University of Florida	Boston College	University of Illinois	Oklahoma State University	University of Oregon
University of Georgia	Clemson University	University of Indiana	Baylor University	Washington State University
University of Kentucky	Duke University	University of Iowa	University of Oklahoma	Oregon State University
University of Missouri	Florida State University	University of Maryland	Iowa State University	University of California
University of South Carolina	Georgia Tech University	University of Michigan	Kansas State University	University of Washington
University of Tennessee	Louisville University	Michigan State University	West Virginia University	Stanford University
Vanderbilt University	University of Miami	Texas Tech University	Texas Christian University	University of Utah
University of Alabama	North Carolina State University	University of Minnesota	University of Kansas	University of California at Los Angeles
University of Arkansas	University of North Carolina	University of Nebraska		
Auburn University	University of Notre Dame	Northwestern University	University of Texas at Austin	Arizona State University
Louisiana State University	University of Pittsburgh	Ohio State University		University of Southern California
University of Mississippi	Syracuse University	Pennsylvania State University		University of Colorado
Mississippi State University	University of Virginia	Perdue University		University of Arizona
Texas A&M University	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Rutgers University		
	Wake Forest University	University of Wisconsin		



<https://www.nationalresearch.net/drug-testing/>



<http://www.thelariatonline.com/schools-should-not-drug-test-athletes/>

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Acknowledgments

A special thank you to Dr. Hartman, Kevin Plewniak, and the Gardner-Webb University Writing Center for their guidance and support.