Medical coverage in Rugby sevens, Nanjing 2014 youth Olympics

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Medical coverage at mass events, especially sports events, is a popular sub-branch of care among emergency physicians and emergency nurses in Hong Kong. There is often a misconception that sports event coverage depends on the expertise of orthopedic surgeons. As generalists, emergency physicians and emergency nurses can handle medical emergencies such as exercise-induced asthma, cardiac arrest and gastroenteritis outbreak and traumas such as joint dislocation and wounds. In addition, emergency physicians and emergency nurses are familiar with both prehospital care service and emergency room service. The Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine has established a Sports Medicine Sub-committee for more than 10 years. In terms of work, medical coverage involves the pre-event stage, the event stage and the post-event stage. The pre-event stage involves recruitment of personnel, training and drills and preparation of equipment. The event stage involves skills beyond those found in the emergency room. The most important concept is to take care of the sick but not to overcrowd an already busy emergency room. The post-event stage involves evaluation and improvement of service. In terms of mentality, medical coverage involves consideration of clinical needs, logistics and politics (power and relationships). Clinical consideration is relatively easy for emergency physicians and emergency nurses. With respect to logistics and politics, things are not that straightforward. Rugby Sevens first appeared as an Olympic event in Nanjing 2014 Youth Olympics (YOG). It was a four-day event participated by 144 young athletes. Like all ruby games, head injury, joint dislocation were all present.

Biography

Au Kin Heng Constantine is an Emergency Specialist from Hong Kong who has worked at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hong Kong. He has Founded the Emergency Room at the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital, Shenzhen along with Gary Chu. He is currently the Medical Director of ECT-HK/SZ. He has experience in medical coverage, served in the Oxfam Trailwalker, Hong Kong, the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympic Games (Equestrian Event), the East Asian Games 2009 (Hong Kong), the 16th Asian Games (Guangzhou, 2010) and Rugby sevens, Nanjing 2014 Youth Olympics (YOG).

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