THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS (TUEs)

What is a TUE? An official medical document giving permission to take medication, ordinarily prohibited, that is necessary to treat a legitimate medical condition (only valid for the period indicated).
WHAT EXACTLY IS A TUE?

It is NOT a drug, nor is it a medication.

It is not Doping or Cheating (use of TUEs is carefully monitored to avoid abuse or manipulation of the system).

It is a documented medical file approved by a TUE Committee accepting that there is a legitimate need to take a medication and that no equal alternative is available.

It gives permission for the athlete to take the medication while competing without registering a doping offence.
HOW DO I APPLY FOR A TUE?

• If I am in the IAAF RTP or will be competing in any IAAF calendar event, I apply to the IAAF: tue-application@iaaf.org

• If I am not in the IAAF RTP nor in an IAAF event, I apply to my relevant National TUE Body.

• Applications must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the competition if applicable.

• The IAAF TUE Application Form must include:
  1) Full medical history and all relevant medical data
  2) Statement by a qualified physician attesting to the necessity of the prohibited substance and why no viable alternative exists
  3) Dose, frequency, route of administration and duration of use of the otherwise prohibited substance or method.

• NB: Beta-2 agonists (except formoterol, salbutamol, salmeterol) must also include:
  1) medical history with respiratory symptoms
  2) Physical examination
  3) Spirometry report with FEV1 (Forced Expiratory Volume in 1sec).
CRITERIA FOR GRANTING A TUE

Risk to health if the athlete doesn't take the medication
No enhancement of performance beyond that of returning to normal health
No reasonable therapeutic alternative
The necessity of use of the medication cannot be the result of prior use of banned substances.

NB: All four criteria must be met.
NB: Retroactive TUEs can be given only in the case of medical emergencies (treatment of acute medical conditions) where there was no time to submit an application prior to the necessary use and subsequent doping control.

A TUE is issued for a limited period of time. For chronic conditions it must be renewed and the continued need must be proven.