Special Issue

Interdisciplinary Aspects of Women's Physiology and Physical Fitness

Message from the Guest Editors

Scientific knowledge regarding female training responses and adaptations is minimum compared to the body of research concerning males. One of the reasons is the fact that including women in studies could be a methodological difficulty due to the complexity of controlling hormone fluctuations associated with the menstrual cycle. It is important to highlight that female participation in sports over the last years has increased, which demonstrates the need for research in the area of the physiological effects and consequences of exercise in women. Further, hormonal changes should be considered when exercise response is evaluated in females besed on the increasing number of women engaging in sports and training programs. Not only to understand the unique physiology of women and how the sex hormones might influence the physiological response to exercise and sport performance, but to study women across the age span as they experience menarche to menopause, also including postmenopausal women. Therefore, we should attempt to provide a global perspective of women's different reproductive profiles over their lifespan and their influence over physical fitness.

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