

OPENING REMARKS

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on the basic topic:

MEASUREMENT, DIAGNOSTICS AND SURVEILLANCE OF STUDENTS' AND ATHLETES' ANTHROPOLOGICAL STATUS

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The procedures for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of students' and athletes' anthropological status constitute the fundament for efficient realization of dominant sports and physical education functions.

These procedures are parts of integrative, causal and inter-disciplinary relations, and therefore they are defined as complex phenomena of special social, political, scientific and professional significance.

Based on this knowledge of their definition and theoretical and practical application, a high degree of progress has been achieved in development, status and function of the physical education and sports activities in institutional, social, political and scientific sense.

In same respect, it is a precondition for creation of high level capacities and characteristics of the anthropological status of subjects involved in physical education and sports activities.

Accordingly, achievement of efficient results in determining social rating and human dimension of the physical education, as well as in sports activities, is largely a product of high theoretical and practical knowledge application in programmed procedures for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological status transformational processes with participants treated in these activities.

These guidelines impose the imperative need for acquiring, analysis and more efficient appropriate application of the existing and new professional and scientific knowledge about these procedures, not only by competent professional and scientific staff, but also by institutions whose program activities address development orientations in sports and physical education.

In so far practice, remarkable results have been achieved in application of the methodological and methodic knowledge in measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the status and development tendencies of the anthropological dimensions in students and athletes involved in sports and physical education activities.

Similar results have been achieved in institutional conceiving and realization of the methods and procedures for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological status in plans and programs of physical education and sports activities in schools, sport organizations and sport clubs.

Thereby, sports pedagogues make efforts for new and more efficient method procedures application with a professional interest, feeling of responsibility and need for further rapid development of sports and physical education activities.

However, there are still major needs for more efficient application of the methods for measure-

ment, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological status with students and athletes. This is greatly related with the methodic procedures applied in the athletes' training process.

In this respect, several of them only can be mentioned.

Measurement of the manifest indicators of the anthropological status in students and athletes is mainly performed through a small number of tests, whose measurement characteristics are not always of a satisfactory level. Checking of these characteristics is not a regular practice.

Therefore, diagnostics, that is determination of the manifest results defining the anthropometric and surveillance segment of the anthropological status of participants in physical activities, are not significantly based on the required scientific assumptions.

Analogically, surveillance of the development transformation processes of manifest results, that are subject of the appropriate measurements, also has not been sufficiently determined by methodological and scientific values.

This situation is even more present in application of measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of development changes in characteristics and capacities of the anthropometric and motor indicators in a latent space of the anthropological status, and it has much higher scientific significance as compared with the manifest space.

Actually, there is a very little application of appropriate methods for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of latent dimensions in that space.

This phenomenon is present not only in respect of anthropological and motor latent dimensions, but also in respect of other dimensions of this status that are in inter-disciplinary and causal correlations with efficient treatment of physical education and sports activities.

So, first of all, it is about conative and cognitive features of students and athletes.

By testing the issue of measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of manifest latent dimensions of the students' and athletes' anthropological status, also other considerations could be mentioned.

Among them, special focus is made on surveillance of these dimensions through experimen-

tal procedures. However, there is a particularly insufficient application of longitudinal experimental procedures.

The aforementioned conclusions about the present situation is in correlation with methods for processing data obtained by adequate measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological dimensions.

Data processing is commonly made with univariate statistical methods application, so that the results of the concerned procedures often condition scientific exactness of provided conclusions.

Certainly, this situation has an inconvenient impact on the scientific and practical effect. Besides its multiple impact on the physical education and sports activities function, it also has inconvenient impact on the anthropological status improvement in students and athletes in respect of biological, health and affirmative sport aspect.

As an example in this sense, selection of potential top athletes can be mentioned based on tests without satisfactory measurement characteristics for the anthropological status assessment.

Based on the presented situation, in order to improve efficacy in application of the methods for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of students' and athletes anthropological status, the following basic concluding remarks are possible:

- For more efficient realization of the basic physical education and sports function, selection and application of tests for students' and athletes' anthropological status assessment should be made with satisfactory measurement characteristics.
- Measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological status should be applied as much as possible in a latent space with multi-variant statistical data processing, first of all, in longitudinal experimental procedures.
- For more exact scientific application of the methods for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological status, the latest findings should be treated more extensively through a continual educational process for professional staff in physical education and sports.
- In this process for professional and scientific staff, personnel with so far efficient practical achievements will only need additional trainings, and for those with inadequate educational sports qualifications it is an impera-

tive to adopt completely methods for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological status.

- *The program orientation in social sport organizations and sport clubs, arising*

from the need for more efficient methods for measurement, diagnostics and surveillance of the anthropological status, selection of potential top athletes should be raised at a higher scientific level.