

Physiology of Sport and Exercise

Overtraining Syndrome and Training Monitoring

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Learning Objectives



Concept of overtraining syndrome

How to prevent overtraining monitoring athletes' training
dose- response

Practical approach - training monitoring

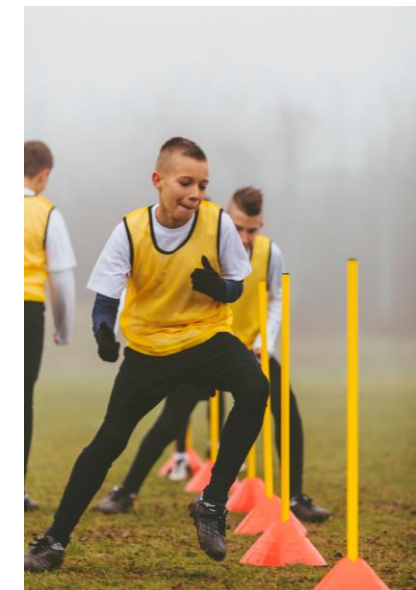
To achieve highest highest performance

Sport at the professional level, looking for ?

The focus is preparing the athlete/team to reach the peak of performance during competition

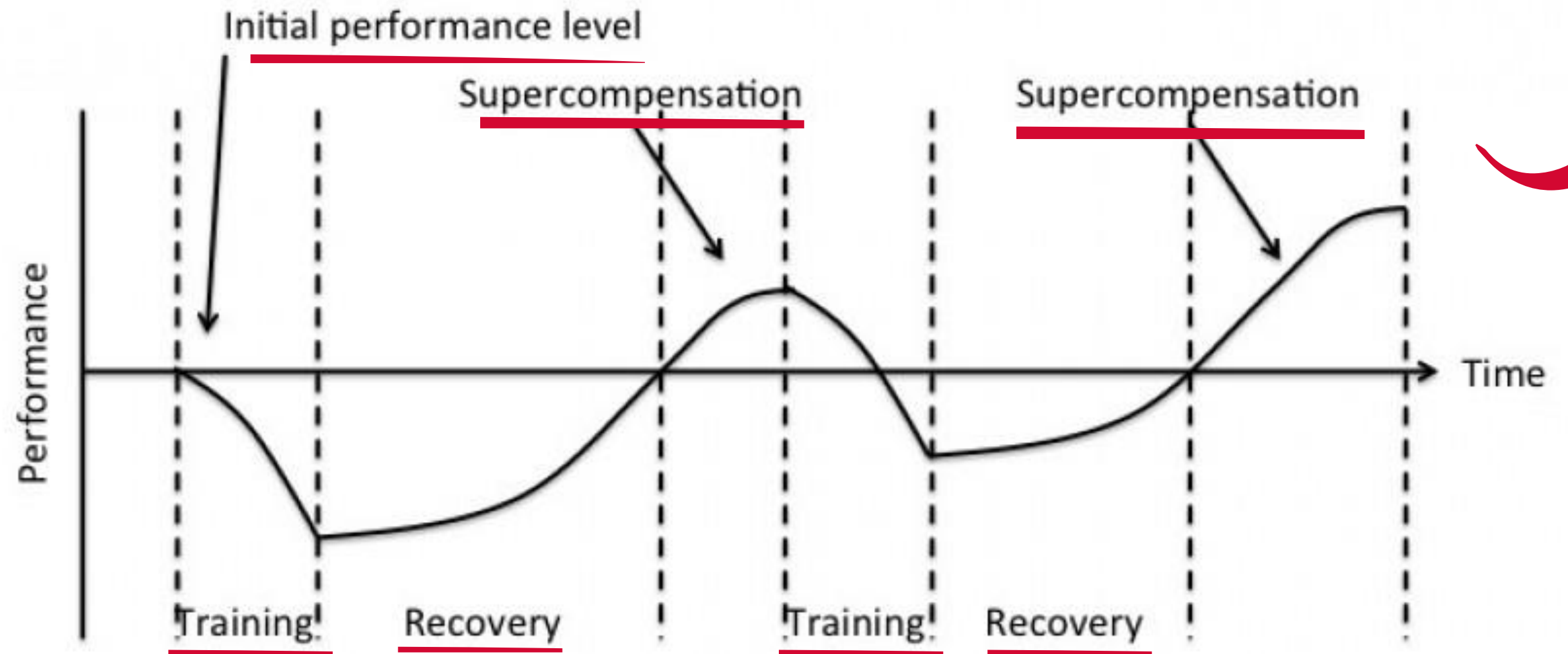
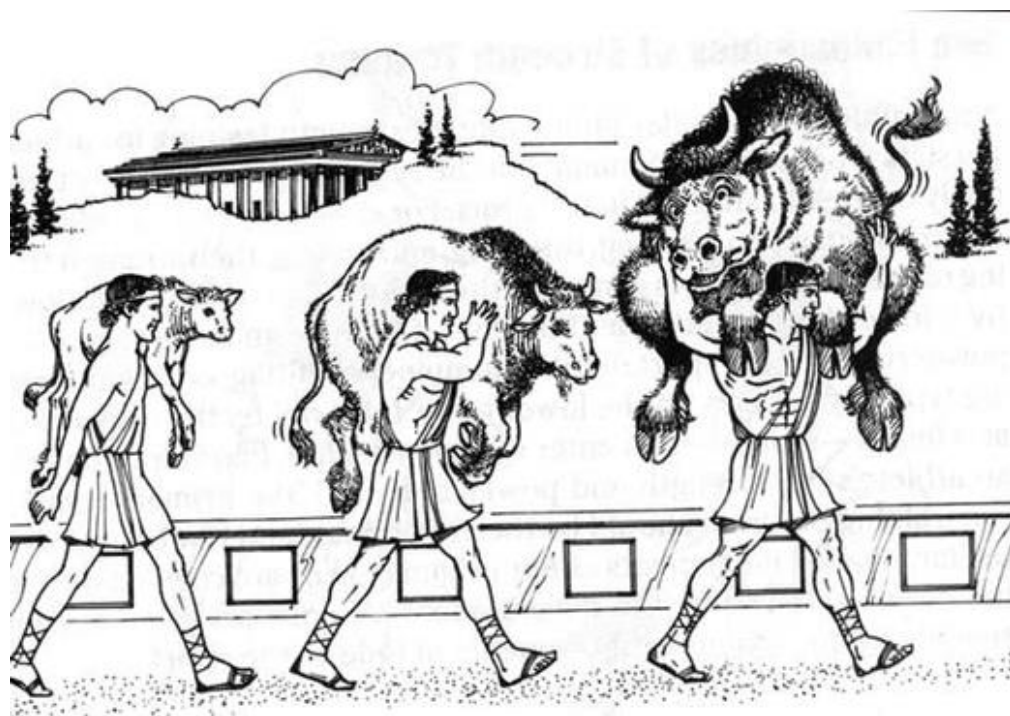


Intense training routine to optimize the athletes' performance - Physical and Technical



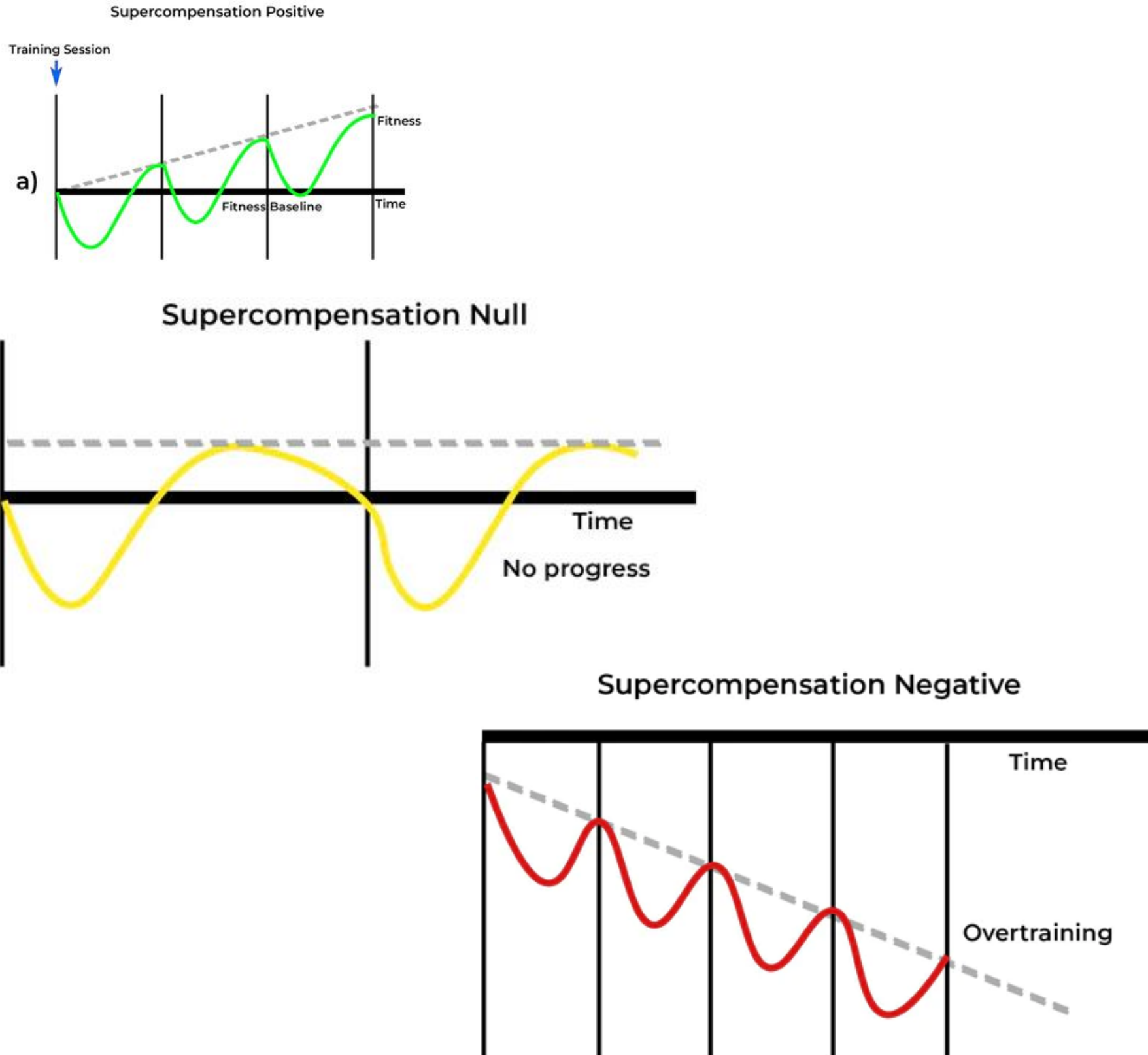
Supercompensation: training dose- response

The peak of performance at the competition

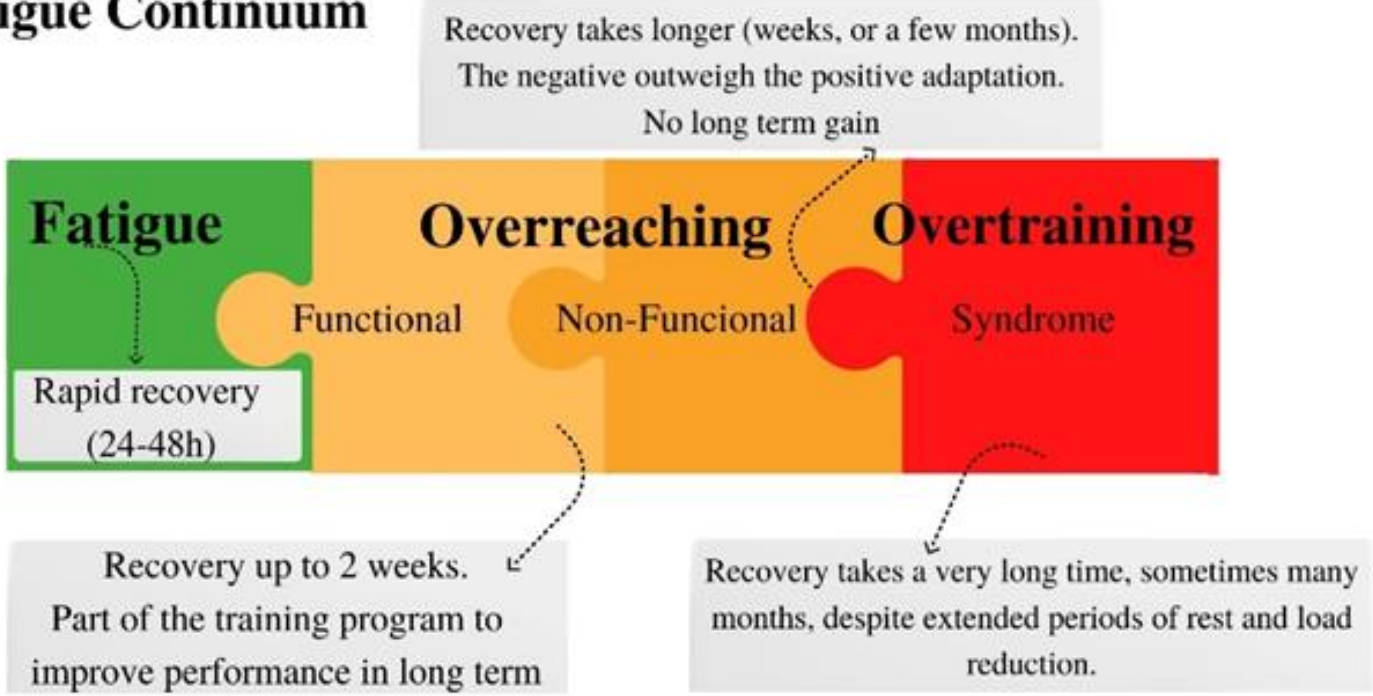


Classic periodization model: A training load followed by recovery results in increased performance (supercompensation).

Supercompensation: positive/null/negative



Fatigue Continuum



Overtraining Syndrome (OTS) - Literature Description

Is a condition associated with a long-term **imbalance between training and recovery**



Characterized by **performance decrements, fatigue, and mood disturbances** and has been proposed to affect between 20% and 60% of athletes throughout their careers.

OTS is defined as “a sports-specific **decrease in performance together with disturbances in mood state**. Underperformance persists despite a period of recovery **lasting weeks or months**.”

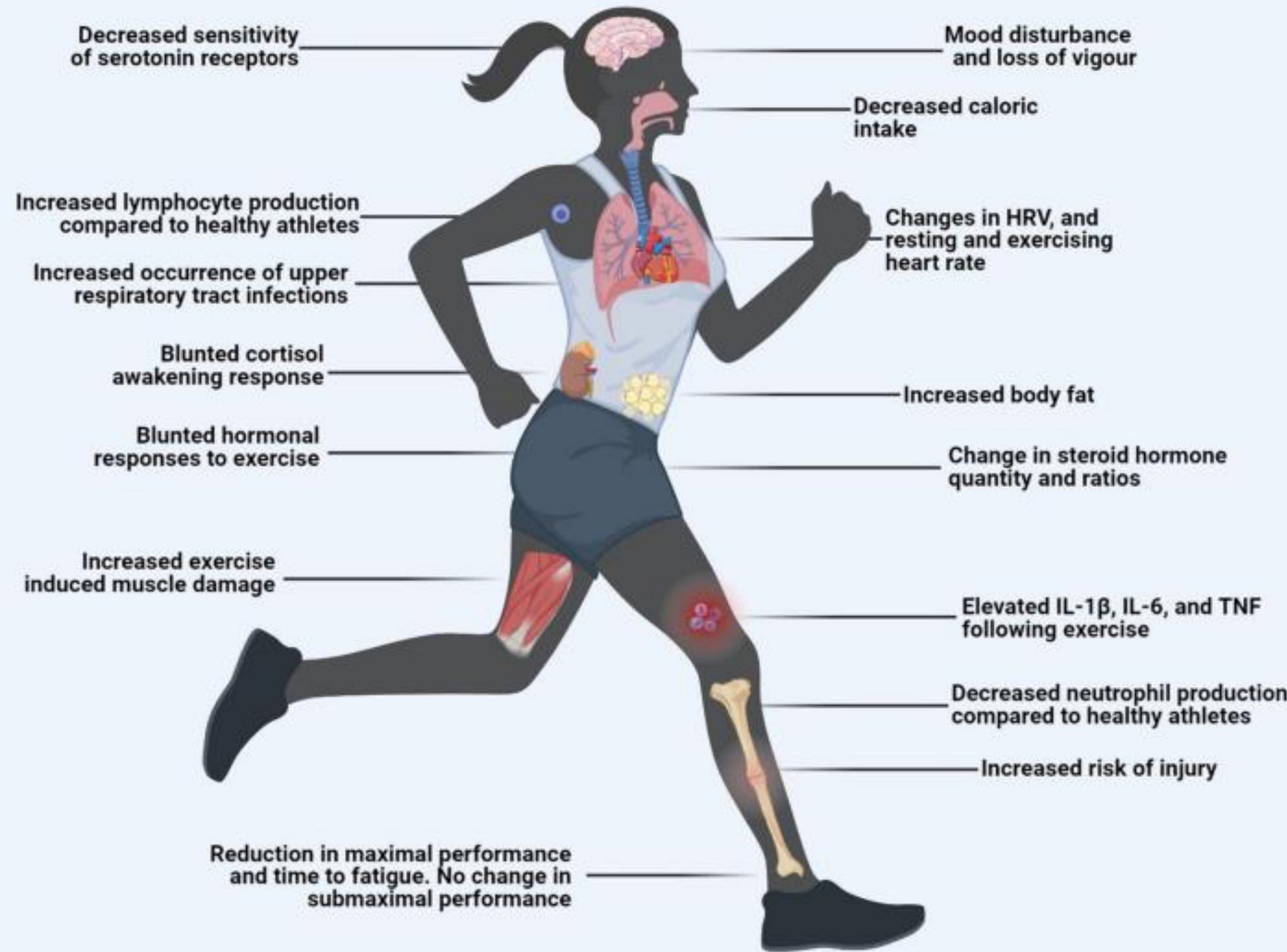
Issues:

Vague terminology, complex nature.
Difficult to understand, diagnose and treat.

Attention:

Athletic performance
Physiological changes
Psychological signs and symptoms

Proposed symptoms of the overtraining syndrome in athletes



Decreased sensitivity of serotonin receptors

Increased occurrence of upper respiratory tract infections

Blunted cortisol awakening responses

Blunted hormonal responses to exercise

Increase exercise induced muscle damage

Reduction in maximal performance and time to fatigue. No change in submaximal performance

Mood disturbance and loss of vigour

Decreased caloric intake

Changes in HRV and resting and exercising heart rate

Change in steroid hormone quantity and ratios

Elevated IL-1B, IL-6 and TNF following exercise

Increased risk of injury

Overtraining Syndrome Symptoms and Diagnosis in Athletes: Where Is the Research? A Systematic Review

Jonathon Weakley,^{1,2,3} Shona L. Halson,^{1,2} and Iñigo Mujika^{4,5}

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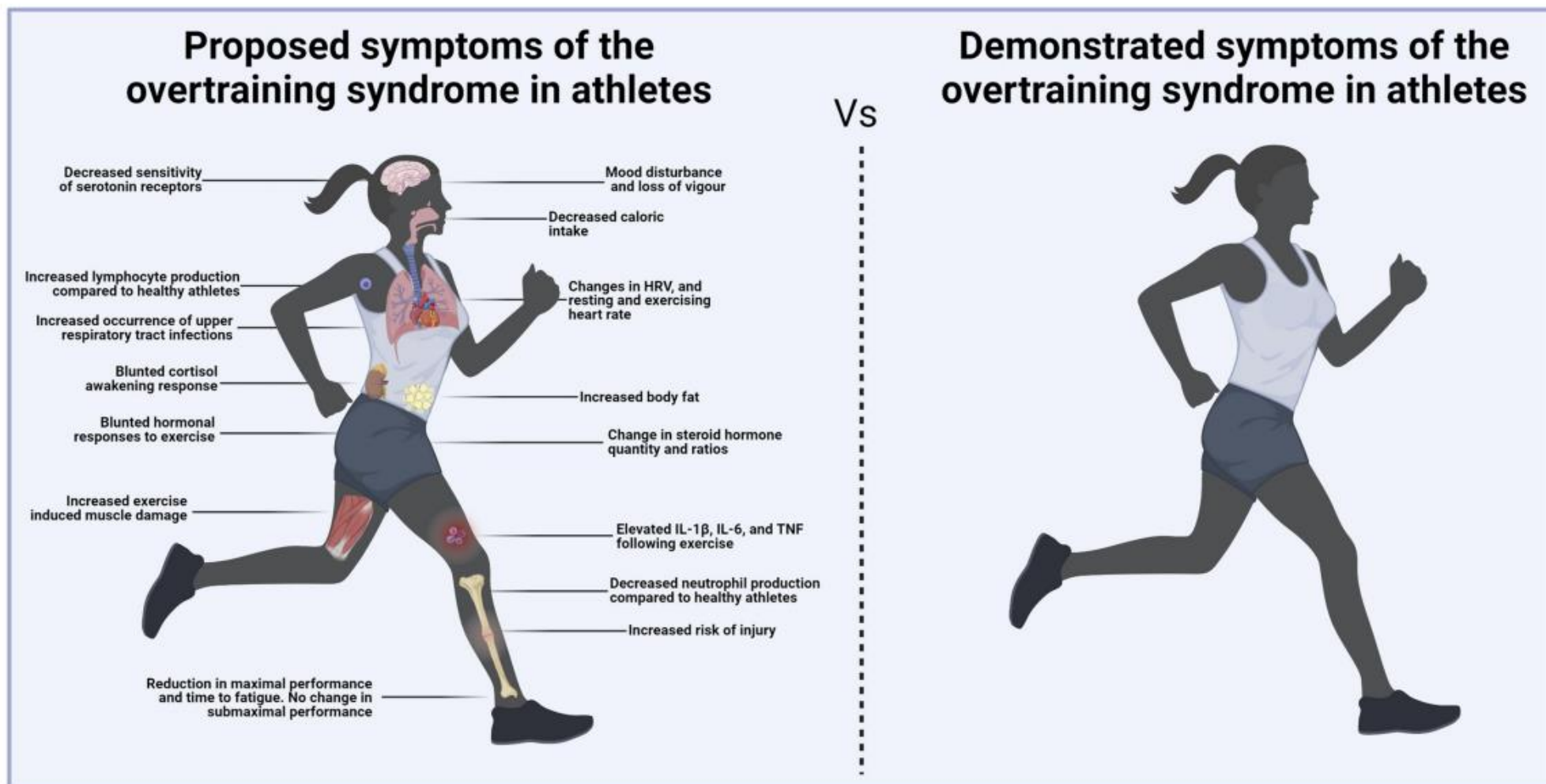


Figure 2 — Proposed and demonstrated symptoms of overtraining syndrome. Information retrieved from references 8–11, 13, 14, 23–25, and 31. HRV indicates heart-rate variability; IL, interleukin; TNF, tumor necrosis factor.

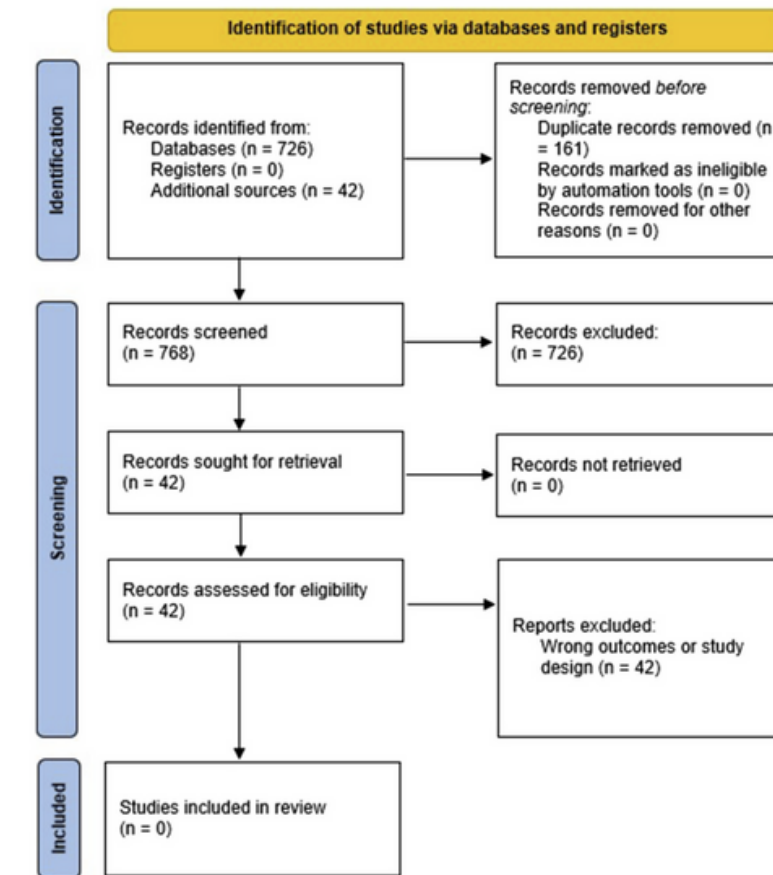


Figure 1 — Flow diagram of search strategy for eligible studies.

It should be noted that while this review cannot provide evidence of sufficient quality regarding changes in performance and mood state associated with OTS, it is plausible practitioners and researchers have indeed observed OTS but have been unable to document these changes

How to prevent and/or diagnose the OTS symptoms?

Monitoring/tracking / registering the athletes' responses to training and competition demands



Which variables and parameters???



Athletic performance

Physical tests

(e.g., sport modality characteristics)

Sport-specific test



Physiological changes

Cardiac autonomic responses

(e.g., VO₂max, HR, HRV)

Hormonal concentration

(e.g., testosterone, cortisol, estrogen...)

Blood markers



Psychological signs and symptoms

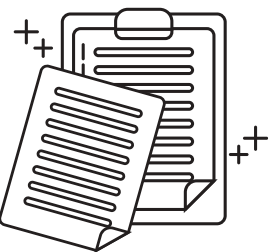
Mood disturbance

Droop on motivation to train and compete

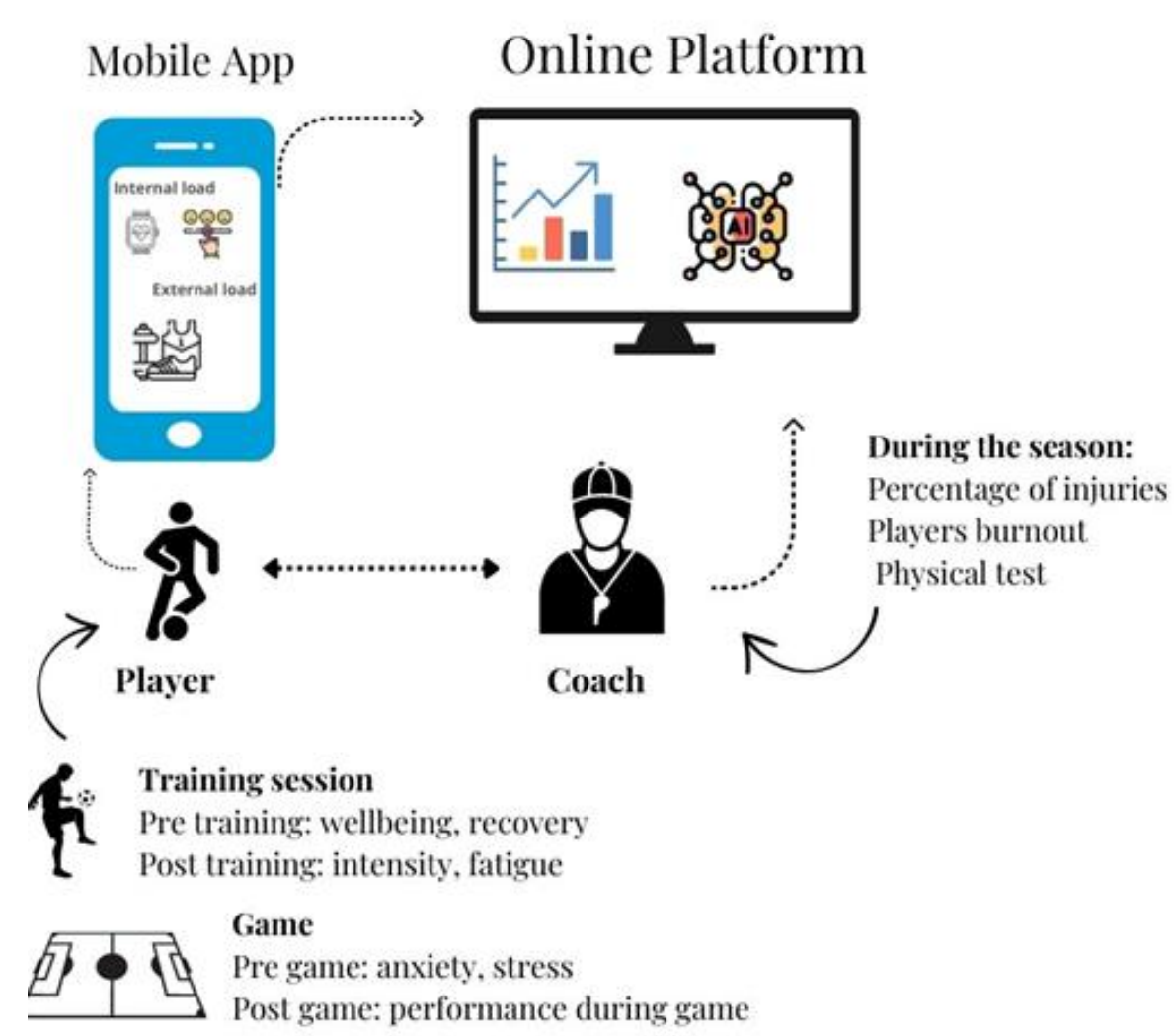
Perception of wellbeing

Mental fatigue

(e.g., evaluation by scales, questionnaires and athletes' conversation/report)



Monitoring Process



Commercial Platform



Input and data report
 Player long-term monitoring
 Algorithm to prevent injury and OTS

KITMAN LABS

LOAD CONTROL

ACTIMET

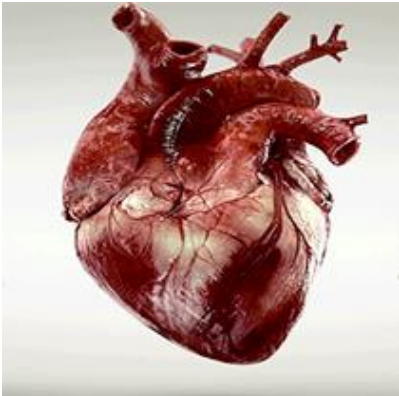


HRV4 training application - hands on



HRV4Training

Sinoatrial Node (pacemaker)



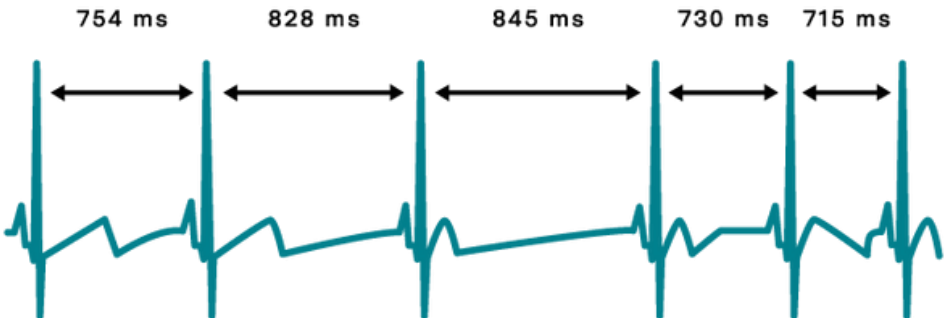
Parasympathetic fibers: inhibitory

Sympathetic fibers: excitatory

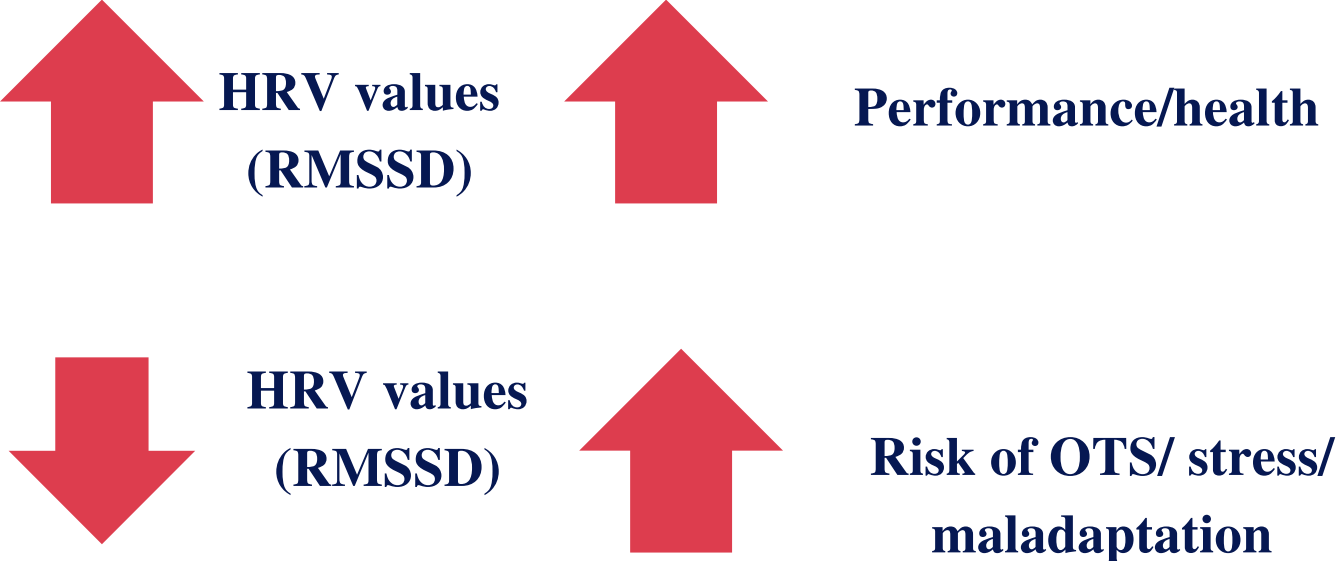


Measurement of HRV and perceptual parameters
(wellbeing, training intensity and recovery)

HEART RATE VARIABILITY



Shorter interval: higher bpm
Major interval: slower bpm



Preventing chronic fatigue in Czech young athletes: The features description of the "SmartTraining" mobile application

Martina Bernaciková^{1*}, Michal Kumstát², Iva Burešová¹, Kateřina Kapounková², Ivan Struhár², Martin Sebera¹ and Ana Carolina Paludo^{3*}

Multistage Process- Chronic Fatigue

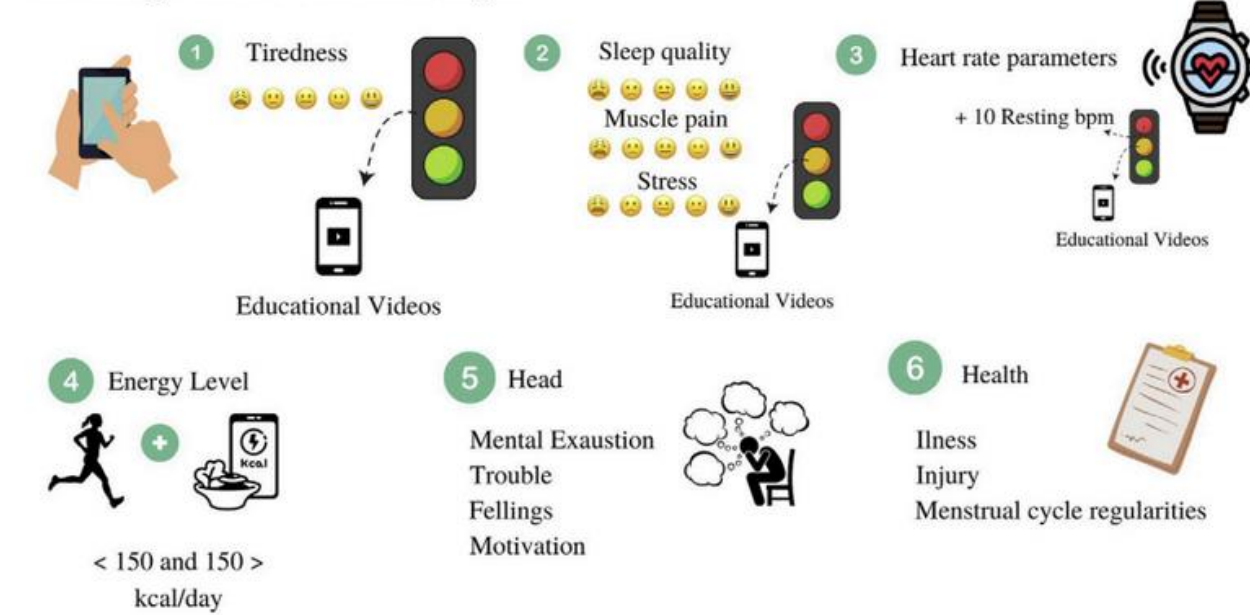


FIGURE 2 Training parameters assessed in a multisatage process of alertness for chronic fatigue.

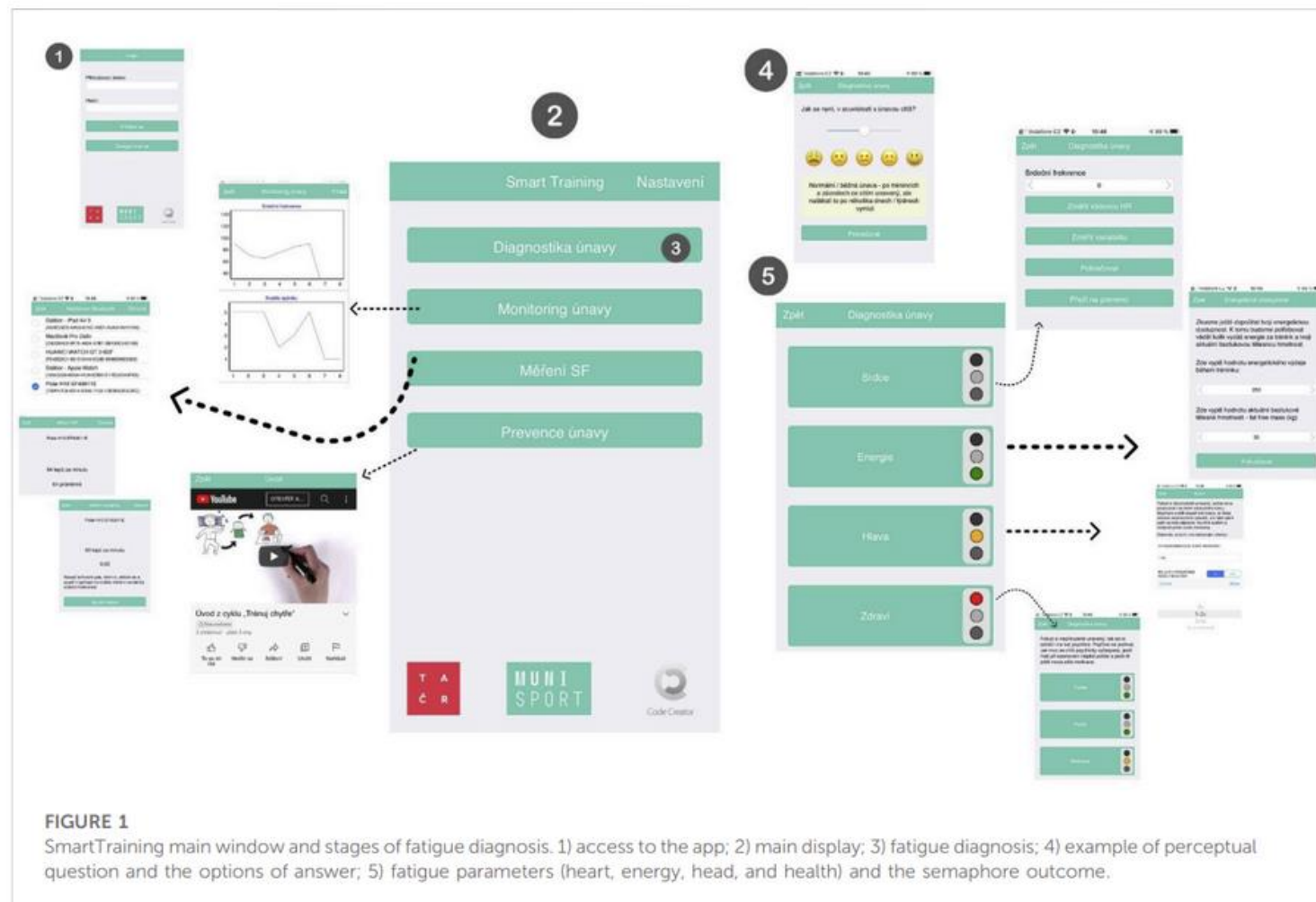


FIGURE 1 SmartTraining main window and stages of fatigue diagnosis. 1) access to the app; 2) main display; 3) fatigue diagnosis; 4) example of perceptual question and the options of answer; 5) fatigue parameters (heart, energy, head, and health) and the semaphore outcome.



FIGURE 3 The educational part of the app: amination videos related to training demands and recovery (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9yCtXX66neQPdsoMZI9gtCV7kz7JZuh0>).

Monitoring session/competition/ individual athletes/ menstrual cycle – hands on

**Example of a spreadsheet created on
excel and Power BI**

TAKE NOTE

- Sports at the professional level require high training intensity
- Adequate training load (dose) and recovery is ideal for a supercompensation on performance (response)
- Inadequate training and recovery can trigger the OTS
- OTS is characterized by a decrease in performance and physiological and psychological responses. It will take months to recover (initial conditions)
- OTS is a vague concept
- Monitoring long-term athletes' responses can help to prevent and diagnose OTS
- Many options to monitor/track athletes' physiological and perceptual responses to training. Use of commercial app; coaches can build their own tools.



Obrigada



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Complementary:

Overtraining syndrome symptoms and diagnosis in athletes: where is the research? a systematic review

<https://doi.org/10.1123/ijssp.2021-0448>.

Preventing chronic fatigue in Czech young athletes: the features description of the 'SmartTraining' mobile application

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fphys.2022.919982>.