



SAMANTHA E. SCARNEO-MILLER, PHD, LAT, ATC

2017 RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENT

“EMERGENCY ACTION PLANNING POLICY ADOPTION IN SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETICS”

Student grant program: Doctoral 2017-2018
Funding: \$2,500

CLINICAL TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Emergency action plans (EAP) should be written and inclusive of all components outlined in the 2002 NATA Position Statement: Emergency Planning in Athletics. Further, the EAP should be communicated with all stakeholders at the high school to improve the delivery of high quality, life-saving care.

IMPACT

This grant funded study evaluated the presence of written emergency action plans in the high school setting. The findings show that only 9.9% of athletic trainers report adoption of a comprehensive emergency action plan (i.e., inclusive of all components outlined in the 2002 NATA Position statement). Further, the findings demonstrated a lack of knowledge across the socioeconomic continuum from athletic directors, coaches, and school nurses. These findings illustrate the need for improved strategies to increase emergency action plan compliance across the Nation.

"This doctoral student funding from the NATA Foundation helped jump start my research career to focus on healthcare administration and specifically the presence of written policies and procedures in the high school setting."

PUBLICATIONS

Scarneo-Miller SE, Casa DJ, Yin S, Moore TE, Murata Y, Register-Mihalik JK, DiStefano LJ. The Precaution Adoption Process Model in Describing Emergency Action Plan Adoption. *Int J Allied Health Sci Pract.* 2021;19(2).

Dierickx EE, Scarneo-Miller SE, Casa DJ. High School Coaches' Knowledge and Behaviors for Emergency Preparedness. *Int Sport Coaching J.* Accepted Feb. 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1123/iscj.2020-0110>

Murata Y, Scarneo-Miller SE, McMahon LJ, Casa DJ. Adoption of Emergency Action Plans in Secondary Schools: A Study of School Nurse Knowledge and Behavior. *J. School Health.* 2020;90(9):694-702. <https://doi.org/10.1111/josh.12930>

Scarneo-Miller SE, DiStefano LJ, Singe SM, Register-Mihalik JK, Stearns RL, Casa DJ. Emergency Action Plans in Secondary Schools: Barriers, Facilitators, and Social Determinants Affecting Implementation. *J. Athl Train.* 2020;55(1):80-87.

Scarneo-Miller SE, DiStefano LJ, Register-Mihalik JK, Stearns RL, Denegar CR, Casa DJ. Athletic Administrators Report of Emergency Action Plan Policy Adoption in Secondary School Athletics: The influence of athletic training services. *J. Applied Sport. Management.* 2019;11(3):1-10.

Scarneo SE, DiStefano LJ, Stearns RL, Register-Mihalik JK, Denegar, CR, Casa DJ. Emergency Action Planning in Secondary-School Athletics: A Comprehensive Evaluation of Current Adoption of Best Practice Standards. *J Athl. Train.* 2019;54(1):99-105.



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Dr. Samantha Scarneo-Miller serves as an Assistant Professor and Program Director for the Master of Science in Athletic Training in the Division of Athletic Training, School of Medicine at West Virginia University. She works to improve overall safety for all athletes, and has most recently focused on the high school setting. Dr. Scarneo-Miller's research interests include policy implementation to improve sport safety, dissemination and implementation science, and public health frameworks with regards to sports medicine interventions. Dr. Scarneo-Miller is the principal or co-investigator of several grants and has spoken at various national meetings and state meetings such as the Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association, National Athletic Trainers' Association and American College Health Association.