

WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. —2 CORINTHIANS 3:17



GIVE TODAY

HEART-STOPPER: Why Are So Many Young, Healthy Male Athletes Collapsing Worldwide?

No, it's not normal for this many young, healthy male athletes to collapse on the field, in the gym, on the court or in the ring. It's not normal for a population so often admired as the gold standard for optimal health to drop dead on the spot when exercising. In fact, there's nothing "normal" about it.

The much-too-frequent stories are heartbreaking. A 17-year-old high school golfer found lifeless on the floorboard of a golf cart on the sixth hole while practicing for an upcoming tournament. A 20-year-old hockey team captain collapses unexpectedly during intermission at a game and cannot be revived. A high school senior athlete drops on the field during flag football practice and never gets up. These saddening reports are recently in the news and the athletes' cause of death has yet to be released.

Still, these accounts follow a disturbing trend unfolding across the world, representing a much greater trove of similar stories heaped up behind them in less than two years. The details trickle in from all over the world: India, Italy, Colombia, Spain and Belgium, to name a few. They follow a pattern woven with the same black thread of cardiovascular failure: Healthy young male wakes up, straps on his athletic shoes, goes out for practice or competition like any other day, and then suddenly, without warning, collapses, oftentimes not living to see another day.

Blow a whistle and call a "time-out!"

In the grief, pain and anguish these episodes wreak on the communities and lives of friends and family of affected athletes, questions of "why" and "how" get pushed off until later. But the glaring anomalies are so far from the norm that finding explanations cannot — and should not — be pushed off forever. Obviously, their accounts are built-in compelling case studies with significant and far-reaching implications that could save the lives of other athletes on a global scale.

To put things into perspective, a 2006 scientific study conducted by the International Olympic Committee out of Lausanne, Switzerland, reported 1,101 sudden deaths among athletes under age 35 between 1966 and 2004. This number works out to be roughly 29 sudden deaths among athletes worldwide per year for 38 years.

Fast-forward to now. According to data collected by Good Sciencing, in about 20 months, there have been 1354 documented reports (and growing) of athletes collapsing. Of all of these, 922 died. Sadly, that's about 68% of all reports. Comparing the Lausanne study against data collected between January 2021 and April 2022, the monthly average number of athlete deaths worldwide is 1,700% higher than the monthly average between 1966 and 2004. The number of deaths in one month alone — March 2022 — is three times higher than the previous annual average.

This elephant has a name.

It doesn't take a scientist, Ph.D. or analyst to

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Two Weeks After Ian, Florida Remains Storm-Shocked

Packing furious winds and a life-threatening storm surge, Hurricane Ian roared ashore in Southwest Florida as a CAT 4 monster storm on September 28, 2022. Just 24 hours prior to making landfall, on September 27, major news outlets like NPR were running such headlines as "Why Predicting Ian's Track Has Been Especially Difficult." As of Tuesday afternoon, projection models had Ian making landfall anywhere from north of Tampa to Fort Myers. No wonder so many residents were caught in a "too-little-too-late" scenario when on Wednesday morning, Ian decidedly slammed into Cayo Costa, a barrier island west of Fort Myers, on the farthest southern edge of the "cone of uncertainty."

Tawana W. was one of those residents. On Wednesday, September 28, at 3 p.m., when Tawana saw the storm surge from the Caloosahatchee River rushing down her street, she went inside her house and cried. She had been making plans all morning to flee the storm, but now it was too late. Within an hour, she found herself in chest-deep water in her neighbor's apartment. It would be there that

[continued>>](#)

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>>continued from FL Storm Ian...

she would endure an entirely sleepless night standing in cold black water as Hurricane Ian raged outside the door.

When the waters receded the next morning, the light of day showed Tawana that she had lost EVERYTHING: her furniture, her clothes, her appliances, her van — taken in mere hours by nature's cruel blow. The only things she was able to salvage were her Bible, her cell phone and, amazingly, her three beloved dogs who survived by balancing on a floating mattress.

Ten days after the storm, the community still had no power, no potable water and no transportation. While FEMA was supposed to pay a visit to the neighborhood, no timetable exists as to how long the residents' belongings will remain heaped on the curb, reduced to small chaotic mountains of storm-damaged trash.

Not the Time to Turn a Blind Eye

Mat Staver, founder and chairman of Liberty Counsel, knows the value of coordinating with other organizations in a time like this.

"Hurricane Ian will go down as one of the most damaging storms in our nation's history with destruction extending from Southwest Florida through the middle of the state and all the way to Florida's east coast," Staver says. "Now is not the time to turn a blind eye to the suffering and devastation affecting tens of thousands of Floridians. We must answer the call to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need. Through our ministry of Liberty Relief International, we are partnering with organizations to not only bring much needed humanitarian aid to the hardest-hit neighborhoods and communities, but to embrace those who have lost everything with compassion, prayer and spiritual support."

Liberty Relief International, an outreach of Liberty Counsel Ministries, will be ministering to communities in need with food, water, clothing, damage mitigation, counseling and much more. Hurricane relief efforts will extend well past the immediacy of the present crisis as Florida recovers and rebuilds in the wake of Ian's fury. To partner with Liberty Relief International, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/Givelan> **LC**



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make an educated assessment of what changed since sudden deaths among athletes worldwide took a sharp upward turn: the widespread distribution of the experimental COVID-19 mRNA "vaccine" in early 2021.

"There is a portion of the population that can do well with the [COVID] vaccine, but there is a portion of the population that does not do well with the vaccine," says Dr. Paul Alexander, epidemiologist and researcher. "And the problem is that number is so high, it should not be that high."

One of those athletes that did "not do well with the vaccine" was 27-year-old Japanese baseball star Yusuke Kinoshita. He suffered a heart attack and died just eight days after the first dose of his COVID shot. In another popular sport worldwide — soccer — a series of heart attacks plagued elite professionals in Europe, to which officials quickly downplayed any connection to COVID or in their minds, worse than that: COVID-19 vaccines.

Sports officials weren't the only ones downplaying the connection of cardiovascular adverse events to the COVID shot. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has repeatedly mitigated the risks associated with mRNA vaccination, including myocarditis (inflammation of the heart), pushing for mass vaccination across all demographics, including those with an overwhelmingly low risk for serious disease, hospitalization or death. Our young, healthy male athletes reside in this demographic.

When the American Heart Association (AHA) published a study last fall reporting cardiac test results in patients receiving mRNA vaccines, it concluded that "mRNA vacs dramatically increase inflammation on the endothelium and T cell infiltration of cardiac muscle and may account for the observations of increased thrombosis, cardiomyopathy, and other vascular events following vaccination." The study's conclusions would later be partially walked back after further scrutiny for lack of a control group.

Nevertheless, the alarming numerical rise in inflammatory cardiac markers reported in the study is validation enough to stop the trajectory of future COVID vaccination campaigns. These findings beg for further research to be done, research that sheds light on cause, not just correlation of these deadly adverse events.

The Myocarditis Connection

In March, Dr. Marty Makary, a professor at Johns Hopkins University, wrote to the CDC informing them that it was their duty to rigorously "study the risks of vaccine-induced



myocarditis." His words hold more weight now than ever, given that myocarditis post-vaccination continues to persist.

Reports presented to the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices on September 1, 2022, convey that post-COVID-19 vaccine-induced heart inflammation among young males has risen. If you're a 12-to-15-year-old male, you're staring down a 1 in 6,600 chance of myocarditis post-vaccination. That ratio is not much better for 16-to 17-year-old males, which is 1 in 7,262.

A new study out of Israel backs up this data. Its findings support higher estimates of post-vax myocarditis: 11 per 100,000 boys/men 16-29 after vaccination. According to Dr. Makary, the study methodology is more accurate than the oft-employed VAERS (Vaccine Adverse Events Recording System).

Here is where the connection to sudden death in athletes comes in. According to Dr. Joseph Mercola, an osteopathic physician and best-selling author, "Underlying factors for SADS [Sudden Arrhythmia (or Adult) Death Syndrome] include undiagnosed myocarditis, inflammatory conditions and other conditions that cause irregularities in the electrical system of the heart, thereby triggering cardiac arrest."

Did you catch that? Undiagnosed myocarditis can cause irregularities in the electrical system of the heart and trigger cardiac arrest.

Considering this information, shouldn't we make the connection between the exponential rise in the number of inexplicable cardiac events in otherwise healthy male athletes and the COVID mRNA vaccine rollout? We need real numbers for true risk assessment, and credible, unbiased research that moves us from "mystery" to meaning, even if that means incurring the wrath of Big Pharma. In short, we need answers. Answers that would satisfy a grieving mom who lost her son to an untimely — and potentially avoidable — death. **LC**