



Tour de France Starter Resource

The use of Performance Enhancing Drugs (PEDs) is a major issue in modern sport. Performers may use PEDs for many different reasons, but they all pose significant risks to their health, success and reputation.



In the late 90s it is thought hundreds of top cyclists were taking erythropoietin (EPO) in order to make more red blood cells to help deliver oxygen to muscles. This scandal caused reputational damage to the Tour de France.

Describe and explain the disadvantages and side effects of taking EPO, to the performer and sport/event.

Cheating

Reputation

Fines

Bans

Health

Credibility

Given the risks of EPO and other PEDs, explain why performers may still choose to use PEDs.

Success

Fame

Wealth

Level playing field

Pressure