



**WORLD
AQUATICS**

**MEDICATIONS AND MEDICAL
DEVICES GUIDE**

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WORLD AQUATICS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS (25M) BEIJING 2026

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This guide is for National Member Federations, Chefs de Mission, team doctors, athletes and other accredited participants bringing medicines or medical devices to China for the Championships. Whether entry is through Beijing or another mainland China port, Customs formalities must be completed at the first port of entry into mainland China.

This guide reflects Chinese laws and regulations in force on 22 September 2026, together with published controlled-substance changes that will take effect before the Championships. Final clearance decisions are made by Customs and the other competent Chinese authorities.

1. KEY RULES AT A GLANCE

Category	Required action	Route
Personal ordinary medicine	Small reasonable personal-use quantity; original packaging; carry a prescription or doctor's letter.	Passenger baggage
Special or controlled medicine	Check active ingredients in advance; carry the required evidence; use the Red Channel.	Red Channel
Team medicine stock	Must not be presented as personal baggage or personal mail; use the cargo import route and pre-submit to the organiser.	Formal cargo import
Personal medical device	Reasonable own use only; declare high-value, controlled or re-exported devices.	Baggage or temporary admission
Shared team equipment	Use temporary admission or an applicable ATA Carnet and re-export the identifiable equipment on time.	Temporary admission or ATA

ORGANISER SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Ordinary team medicines and equipment must be submitted at least 45 calendar days before expected arrival. High-risk items, including narcotic or psychotropic medicines, human specimens, radiation equipment and medical devices without Chinese registration or filing, must be submitted at least 60 calendar days before expected arrival. If the deadline has already passed, submit immediately. These are event coordination deadlines, not statutory Customs processing periods.

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2. PERSONAL MEDICINES

Travellers may carry or mail a small quantity of medicine for their own use. The quantity must be consistent with the traveller's medical condition, purpose of travel and length of stay in China. It must not be sold, transferred, lent or used as team stock. China does not apply a general 30-day or 90-day allowance to ordinary personal medicines; Customs assesses reasonable personal use case by case. [1][2][7]

1. DOCUMENTS AND PACKAGING

- Keep medicines in the original manufacturer or pharmacy-labelled packaging. Do not bring unlabelled loose tablets, powders or preparations whose contents or purpose cannot be proved.
- Carry the prescription or doctor's letter with all prescription medicines. Documents should be in Chinese or English; attach a Chinese or English translation if the original is in another language.
- The doctor's letter should state the patient's passport name and number, diagnosis, generic name and active ingredient, dosage form, strength, daily dose, total quantity, treatment period, doctor's name, licence details, signature, date and contact information.
- Cold-chain medicines must travel in suitable temperature-controlled packaging. Airline and civil-aviation rules apply separately to liquids, dry ice, lithium batteries and similar restricted items.

2. PERSONAL MAIL

Current rules permit personal mail containing a small reasonable quantity of medicine for the named recipient's own use. Mail must not be used for team stock, distribution to multiple persons or avoidance of cargo import procedures. To reduce clearance and delay risks, participants should carry personal medicines in their own baggage. Controlled and specially regulated medicines remain subject to their specific permit, prescription and declaration requirements. [1][3][5]

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3. SPECIAL AND CONTROLLED MEDICINES

Check the current Chinese schedules by active ingredient, not only by brand name. The table below states the minimum documents and route. From 1 October 2026, Methoxyethyl Etomidate, Lorotomidate and Solriamfetol are added to Category II psychotropic control; the amended schedule applies during the Championships. [4].

Category	Legal or event requirement	Customs route
Narcotic or Category I psychotropic medicine for personal treatment	Medical-institution diagnosis certificate and identity document; quantity must not exceed the maximum amount permitted on one prescription.	Declare - Red Channel
Category II psychotropic and other scheduled medicines	Reasonable personal treatment quantity only; carry a prescription and doctor's letter. Event pre-screening of ingredients is required.	Declare - Red Channel
Team doctor carrying team narcotic or psychotropic stock	A carrying certificate issued by a Chinese drug regulatory authority at provincial level or above is required in advance; without it, the stock must not enter as baggage.	Prior permit and Red Channel
Anabolic agents and peptide hormones	A medical-institution prescription is required for a reasonable quantity needed for personal treatment; athletes must also comply with the 2026 Prohibited List and TUE rules.	Declare - Red Channel
Biological or blood product regulated as a medicine	For a small reasonable personal-use quantity, carry a prescription or hospital certificate and cold-chain evidence; team stock or cargo requires formal import.	Declare - Red Channel
Human specimens or special articles not regulated as drugs or devices	Obtain health-quarantine approval before dispatch. A natural person may not apply for items containing pathogens. Do not carry without approval.	Special approval and declaration

DO NOT BRING

Non-medical or unauthorized controlled substances, opium, heroin, cannabis or THC, synthetic cannabinoids, potent poisons, or medicines that are harmful to human or animal health or may spread disease. A Therapeutic Use Exemption addresses anti-doping rules only; it does not replace Chinese Customs, drug-control or health-quarantine requirements. [3][4][17]

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4. TEAM MEDICINE STOCK AND CARGO

- A team medical kit, medicine for multiple persons, bulk medicine or medicine beyond reasonable personal use is not personal baggage. It must not be split among travellers or parcels to avoid cargo import procedures.
- Cargo imports must be handled by an appropriately qualified entity in China and its customs broker. Depending on the product, the route may require Chinese drug registration or import approval, filing at an authorized drug-import port, an Import Drug Clearance Form, port inspection and a special-drug import permit. [1][2][3]
- The small-quantity clinical-urgency import pathway may be used only by an eligible Chinese medical institution and only for the approved institution and specified medical purpose. It is not a self-import route for the event organiser or a delegation. [1]
- Team medicines are for the delegation's medical use only and must not be sold, donated or transferred outside the team. The team doctor must designate a custodian, keep receipt, issue, return and balance records, and maintain temperature, light, moisture and security controls.
- Unused team medicines must be re-exported under the approved route or handed to the organiser for lawful disposal through a qualified entity. They must not be left at a hotel or venue, placed in general waste or given to another person.
- Used needles, syringes, lancets and other sharps must be placed immediately in designated sharps containers and handed to event medical services for disposal. They must not be repacked in baggage.

Customs clearance of a medicine or device is not authorization to practise medicine, prescribe, dispense or provide clinical treatment in China. Team doctors providing clinical care in China must comply with the event medical plan and the applicable professional-licensing requirements of the Chinese health authorities. [15]

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5. MEDICAL DEVICES

3. PERSONAL MEDICAL DEVICES

A medical device carried for personal treatment, rehabilitation or daily assistance must be limited to a reasonable quantity for the traveller's own use. It must not be transferred, rented, sold or used as shared team equipment. Carry a prescription or medical certificate, product manual, and the make, model and serial number. [7]

High-value or controlled devices, devices intended to be taken out of China again, and devices whose declaration status is uncertain should be declared through the Red Channel. If Customs registers temporary admission or requires security, present the same device and the Customs-endorsed record at departure to close the procedure. [6][7]

4. SHARED TEAM AND CARGO EQUIPMENT

- All team-owned, shared, cargo-shipped or staff-carried medical equipment must not be declared as personal-use baggage. Use the temporary admission procedure or an applicable ATA Carnet.
- Temporary admission documents must identify each item by Chinese and English name, make, model, serial number, quantity, country of origin, value, intended use and place of use, together with transport documents, invoice or value evidence and any approvals required by law. Customs may require security. [9][10]
- The equipment must remain identifiable and substantially unchanged and be re-exported within the period approved by Customs. China's general temporary admission period is six months from entry; event equipment should be closed out as soon as the departure plan allows. [9]
- Medicines, disposable supplies, reagents, consumables, gifts, goods intended for sale and anything intended to remain in China must not be placed under an ATA Carnet or declared as equipment to be re-exported unchanged.
- Temporary admission or an ATA Carnet deals with Customs tax, security and re-export only. It does not replace requirements imposed by drug, health, radio, environmental or other competent authorities.

5. SHARED TEAM AND CARGO EQUIPMENT

- Commercial or formal imports of medical devices generally require a valid Chinese medical-device registration certificate or filing record and compliant Chinese instructions and labels. Expired, ineffective, obsolete or unsafe devices must not be imported. [8]
- Needles, syringes, catheters, dressings, adhesive electrodes, test strips, test kits, cartridges and other items to be used or consumed in China should be sourced from duly qualified suppliers in China wherever possible. If import is necessary, use formal import procedures and do not mix them into the temporary equipment list.

- For wireless monitors, telemetry devices or wireless sensors, submit the operating frequency, transmit power, communications protocol and Chinese radio-transmission model approval code. Equipment without model approval that does not qualify under the low-power short-range rules requires Beijing temporary import approval before dispatch. [12]
- Devices with lithium batteries must also comply with aviation dangerous-goods rules. Spare batteries must be protected against short circuit and carried in cabin baggage. Batteries above 100Wh and not exceeding 160Wh require prior airline approval; lithium batteries above 160Wh are not permitted in passenger baggage. [13]
- Delegations must not independently import or use portable X-ray, CT, nuclear-medicine equipment, radioactive sources or other ionising-radiation devices at the venue. Required examinations must be provided by an appropriately licensed Beijing medical institution at licensed premises. Ultrasound is not ionising radiation, but it remains subject to medical-device import and use rules. [14]
- Athlete blood, serum, urine, cells, pathogens and other human specimens are not ordinary medical devices or consumables. They require the current special-goods health-quarantine procedure and must not be packed with ordinary equipment. [11]

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6. ARRIVAL IN-COUNTRY CONTROL AND DEPARTURE

6. BEFORE TRAVEL

1. Appoint one delegation medicine-and-equipment custodian to control the lists, supporting documents, packing, transport and re-export arrangements.
2. Check the Chinese medicinal narcotic and psychotropic schedules and the 2026 Prohibited List using the generic name and every active ingredient. Check every ingredient in combination products.
3. Submit items requiring organiser coordination under Section 6 to eventsbj@sinoair.com. Email documents must match the items actually carried or shipped.
4. Pack and label medicines and devices by category and prepare both paper and electronic records. Controlled medicines, essential personal medicines and prescription evidence should remain with the traveler in cabin baggage.

7. ON ARRIVAL IN CHINA

1. Complete the declaration at the first port of entry into mainland China; do not wait until arrival in Beijing.
2. Complete a paper or electronic declaration and use the Red Channel when carrying medicines requiring permits or supporting evidence, human specimens, items beyond reasonable personal use, cargo, samples, unaccompanied baggage or temporarily admitted equipment. [6]
3. Electronic declaration data may be prepared through the WeChat or Alipay Customs Pocket Declaration service. The data must still be confirmed at the designated point on arrival and presented for Customs review. [6]
4. Present the passport, medicines or devices, prescription or doctor's letter, team list, permits, transport documents, temporary admission records or ATA Carnet.
5. If the applicable rule or channel is uncertain, use the Red Channel. Declaration does not itself mean the item is prohibited, but concealment, misdeclaration or presentation of cargo as personal baggage may lead to detention, return, destruction or penalties.

8. DURING THE STAY AND ON DEPARTURE

- Retain the original Customs declaration, ATA Carnet or temporary admission record. Do not alter serial numbers or Customs seals.
- The delegation custodian must record issue, return, balance and disposal of team medicines and consumables daily or whenever used.
- At departure, present the same equipment, unused medicines and original declaration records for re-export and closure. Equipment must not be sold, donated, transferred, rented, abandoned or destroyed in China without authorization.

- If equipment is damaged, lost, detained by Customs or cannot be re-exported on time, contact eventsbj@sinoair.com immediately and do not dispose of it independently.

7. SUBMISSION TO THE EVENT ORGANISER

Submission email: eventsbj@sinoair.com

Email subject: Beijing 2026 Medical Import - NF code - delegation name - expected arrival date

1. Names, mobile numbers and email addresses of the delegation contact, team doctor and medicine-and-equipment custodian.
2. Expected entry date, first mainland China port of entry, flight or airway-bill number, transport mode and expected departure details.
3. Annex A Team Medication List and Annex B Medical Device List. Ordinary personal medicines need not be included, but special or controlled personal medicines must be submitted for pre-screening.
4. Prescriptions, doctor's letters, product manuals, photographs of medicine or device labels, registration or filing information, and permits already obtained.
5. For temporary admission or ATA equipment, provide value evidence, the serial-number list, and the import and re-export plan. Add technical parameters for wireless or battery-powered devices.

The organiser's document review and logistics advice are not approval by a Chinese authority and do not guarantee border clearance. The delegation must ensure that every declaration is truthful, complete and consistent with the physical items. For personal health records, submit only the minimum information required, password-protect the files and send the password in a separate email.

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A. ANNEX A TEAM MEDICATION LIST

Use a separate row for every strength, dosage form or active ingredient. Do not list ordinary personal medicines. For special or controlled personal medicine, state Personal and the passport name in the intended-user field.

No.	Personal or team stock	Generic and brand name	All active ingredients	Form strength daily dose	Qty and treatment period	Controlled special category	Storage and transport	Import route and unused-stock plan
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								

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B. ANNEX B TEAM MEDICAL DEVICE LIST

List all shared equipment, cargo equipment and equipment requiring temporary admission or ATA processing. Show each serial number separately.

No.	Device name	Make model serial	Qty value origin	Use location custodian	China registration filing	Radio battery radiation	Entry port and route	Re-export date and port
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								

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C. OFFICIAL SOURCES

The following laws and service guides are from official Chinese Government, General Administration of Customs, NMPA, National Health Commission, General Administration of Sport or Beijing Government websites. Event details are also supported by the official World Aquatics page. Accessed 22 September 2026.

[1]	Regulations for Implementation of the Drug Administration Law State Council Decree No 828	https://xzfg.moj.gov.cn/front/law/detail?LawID=1792	Effective 15 May 2026 Articles 47-48 cover urgent clinical imports and small reasonable personal-use quantities carried or mailed
[2]	Measures for the Administration of Drug Importation	https://www.samr.gov.cn/zwx/fxxgk/fdzdgknr/bgt/art/2023/art_7dde931fd2fc4f3eb8699a0edc5d4ca9.html	Personal carried medicines and formal drug import procedures
[3]	Regulations on the Administration of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances	https://xzfg.moj.gov.cn/front/law/detail?LawID=1744	Article 44 governs carriage by patients and medical professionals
[4]	2025 Medicinal Narcotic and Psychotropic Schedules and 2026 Amendment No 58	https://yj.sh.gov.cn/qtgzwj/20260707/64dce663535f4569bb81419b58a680bd.html	Adds Methoxyethyl Etomidate Lorotomidate and Solriamfetol from 1 October 2026
[5]	Measures for Import and Export of Anabolic Agents and Peptide Hormones	https://www.samr.gov.cn/zwx/fxxgk/fdzdgknr/bgt/art/2023/art_7722d2dc541545c088a7d217e6c3a1f7.html	Article 25 requires a prescription for reasonable personal-use quantities
[6]	GACC Announcement No 43 of 2025	https://app.www.gov.cn/govdata/gov/202504/05/526129/article.html	Baggage declaration and Red Channel rules effective 1 April 2025
[7]	Customs Measures for Supervision of Inward and Outward Baggage GACC Order No 276	https://www.mofcom.gov.cn/zcfb/zgdwjmywg/art/2025/art_2412b6f8868b4034bf55a1261158e544.html	Reasonable personal use baggage declaration inspection and temporary baggage entry
[8]	Regulations on Supervision and Administration of Medical Devices State Council Decree No 739	https://www.samr.gov.cn/zwx/fxxgk/fdzdgknr/fgs/art/2023/art_70607fc4160041a383e68ff6bfb2826f.html	Article 57 covers registration filing Chinese labelling and prohibited device imports
[9]	Customs Service Guide for Temporary Admission Confirmation	https://online.customs.gov.cn/static/pages/guides/000629012002/000629012002.html	Temporary admission period security and re-export for sport and medical equipment
[10]	GACC Announcement No 193 of 2019 on ATA Carnet Scope	https://www.mofcom.gov.cn/zcfb/zgdwjmywg/art/2020/art_0ebd690dea8148258ec97cbd6517ba72.html	ATA scope for goods used in competition performance and training

[11]	Health Quarantine Rules for Special Goods and Articles GACC Order No 281	https://www.mofcom.gov.cn/zcfb/zgdwjmywg/art/2026/art_8339a43298a341d9b2e6bede55f3d8a1.html	Effective 1 August 2026 for human tissue pathogens and other special articles while excluding products already regulated as drugs or medical devices
[12]	Provisions on Administration of Radio Transmitting Equipment MIIT Order No 57	https://wap.miit.gov.cn/jgsj/wgj/bmgz/art/2023/art_c504af4beeb944fba57e618140959213.html	Model approval and import control for wireless medical equipment
[13]	CAAC Rules for Air Transport of Lithium Batteries	https://www.caac.gov.cn/XXGK/XXGK/ZFGW/201601/t20160122_27588.html	Spare lithium batteries and watt-hour limits in passenger baggage
[14]	Regulations on Safety and Protection of Radioisotopes and Radiation Devices	https://www.mee.gov.cn/yw/gz/fgbz/xzfg/201909/t20190918_734315.shtml	Licensing of radioactive sources and radiation devices
[15]	Interim Measures for Short-Term Medical Practice by Foreign Physicians in China	https://www.nhc.gov.cn/wjw/c100221/202201/60916861923e486f8b456144926178f2.shtml	Registration requirements for foreign physicians providing diagnosis or treatment in China
[16]	World Aquatics Swimming Championships 25m Beijing 2026 Event Information	https://www.worldaquatics.com/news/4578269/international-media-accreditation-opens-for-the-world-aquatics-swimming-championships-25m-beijing-2026	Event dates and venue
[17]	2026 Prohibited List Announcement	https://www.sport.gov.cn/kjs/n5084/c29328536/content.html	Chinese prohibited list effective 1 January 2026

FINAL CHECK

- ☐ Medicines and devices exactly match the lists
- ☐ All medicines are in original identifiable packaging
- ☐ Prescription doctor's letter permits and passport are in cabin baggage
- ☐ Anyone required to declare has prepared the electronic or paper declaration and will use the Red Channel
- ☐ Serial numbers values and re-export plans are complete for temporary equipment
- ☐ The event enquiry email is eventsbj@sinoair.com

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