ANALYSIS OF THE CORRELATION BETWEEN PEAK HEIGHT VELOCITY AND TACTICAL PERFORMANCE IN SOCCER

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Introduction
Tactics have been considered the guideline for soccer training, but also maintain a close relationship with individual motor skills which, in turn, are influenced by individuals' development, growth and maturation. This study aims to examine the correlation between the distance to peak height velocity and the Tactical Performance Index (TPI) of U-13 and U-15 youth soccer players.

Methods
The sample was comprised of 34 youth soccer players who performed 2,468 tactical actions. The System of Tactical Assessment in Soccer (FUT-SAT) was used for collecting and analyzing data (1) and the distance to peak height velocity was assessed through the Maturity Offset (2). Descriptive analysis was performed as well as Shapiro-Wilk's, Spearman's Correlation and Cohen's Kappa tests. Significance level was set to P<0.05.

Results & Discussion
Results indicated high negative correlation (rho=-0.622; P<0.001) between the distance to peak height velocity and Defensive Tactical Performance Index and, therefore, that players who are closer to peak height velocity possess lower values of Defensive Tactical Performance Index.

Conclusion
It is concluded that the proximity to peak height velocity negatively influences the defensive tactical performance of youth soccer players.

References

Keywords: soccer, tactical performance, maturation

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