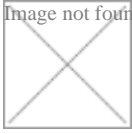


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Lionel Messi is set to return to action for Barcelona this weekend Autor: Getty Images Publicado: 27/03/2019 | 04:38 pm

Lionel Messi injury update: Latest on Barcelona star as squad return to training

Lionel Messi is back at Barcelona after international duty - and looks fit to play this weekend against Espanyol

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Argentina for the first time since the World Cup last year after being given an extended rest by his country.

But things didn't go to play for the Barcelona star, who complained of an injury in the 3-1 friendly loss to Venezuela in Madrid last Friday.

He subsequently sat out the 1-0 win over Morocco yesterday as a precaution following the pubic bone injury.

It appears Messi has suffered no long-term ill-effects though, after joining up with his Barcelona team-mates for training today.

They are set for a crunch run of games as they fight for a treble - and having Messi on board will be key.

Barcelona host Catalan neighbours Espanyol on Saturday in a derby match at the Nou Camp (3.15pm) which the Argentine ace is now expected to play in.

Marc-Andre Ter Stegen, Jasper Cillessen, Nelson Semedo, Ivan Rakitic, Jean-Clair Todibo, Carlos Alena, Samuel Umtiti and Thomas Vermaelen also trained alongside Messi ahead of the weekend game.

Barca have a 10-point cushion at the top of the La Liga table, but will be keen to get the title wrapped up as soon as possible with the Champions League and Copa del Rey final also in the diary.

<http://www.juventudrebelde.cu/en/sport/2019-03-27/lionel-messi-injury-update-latest-on-barcelona-star-as-squad-return-to-training>

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