

GUIDANCE FOR ENHANCED POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

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NARR/ REF A DIRECTS ENHANCED DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENT. REF B IS U.S. CODE MANDATING POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENTS. REF C IS DODI 6490.3 IMPLEMENTATION AND APPLICATION OF JOINT MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE FOR DEPLOYMENTS. REF D IS POLICY FOR PRE- AND POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENTS AND BLOOD SAMPLES. REF E IS ASD(HA) MEMORANDUM UPDATED PROCEDURES FOR DEPLOYMENT HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND READINESS. REF F IS JCS MEMORANDUM UPDATED PROCEDURES FOR DEPLOYMENT HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND READINESS. REF G IS ANNOUNCEMENT OF HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) TESTING CONTRACT AWARD UPDATE OF HIV SERVICE PROCEDURES. REF H IS NAVADMIN FOR DEMOBILIZATION OF NAVAL RESERVISTS RECALLED IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS NOBLE EAGLE, ENDURING FREEDOM AND IRAQI FREEDOM.//

1. PER REF A, USD (PR) HAS DIRECTED AN ENHANCED POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENT (PDHA) PROGRAM TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF REF B. THE INTENT OF THE PDHA PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE THOROUGH AND COMPLETE POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENTS TO ALL REDEPLOYING PERSONNEL (ACTIVE DUTY AND RESERVE COMPONENT) OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO WERE DEPLOYED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES OR ITS TERRITORIES OR POSSESSIONS.
2. MODIFY CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENTS CONTAINED IN REFS B THROUGH F.
 - A. THE PDHA APPLIES TO ALL PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN OPERATIONS IRAQI FREEDOM AND ENDURING FREEDOM, AND ALL CURRENT AND FUTURE DEPLOYMENTS.
 - B. SEA-BASED PERSONNEL WHO DO NOT GO ASHORE ARE INCLUDED IN THIS PROGRAM.
3. DIRECTED ENHANCEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE PDHA PROGRAM INCLUDE:
 - A. COMPLETION OF THE FOUR-PAGE, REVISED DD FORM 2796 POST-DEPLOYMENT QUESTIONNAIRE.
 - B. A FACE-TO-FACE HEALTH ASSESSMENT WITH A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.
 - C. A BLOOD SAMPLE FROM ALL REDEPLOYING PERSONNEL.
 - D. A QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) PROGRAM TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE.

4. THE FOUR-PAGE, REVISED DD 2796 MUST BE COMPLETED DURING THE REDEPLOYMENT PROCESS OR WITHIN 5 DAYS OF RETURN TO HOME STATION. IT IS AVAILABLE AT: [HTTP://WWW.DIOR.WHS.MIL/FORMS/DD2796.PDF](http://www.dior.whs.mil/forms/dd2796.pdf), OR IN THE ELECTRONIC LIBRARY AT: [WWW.PDHEALTH.MIL/](http://www.pdhealth.mil/). THE CORRECT FORM WILL STATE "PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE" AT THE BOTTOM OF PAGE ONE. THE FOUR PAGES SHOULD BE PRINTED ON THE FRONTS AND BACKS OF TWO PIECES OF PLAIN PHOTOCOPYING PAPER, IN A HEAD-TO-HEAD ORIENTATION. DO NOT USE NCR, CHEMICALLY TREATED, OR PRESSURE SENSITIVE PAPER. FORMS SHOULD NOT BE STAPLED. THE FIRST THREE PAGES CONSIST OF A QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE REDEPLOYING SERVICE MEMBER. THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER (HCP) WILL THEN COMPLETE PAGE FOUR OF THE REVISED DD 2796 DURING THE FACE-TO-FACE HEALTH ASSESSMENT. THE ORIGINAL COMPLETED DD 2796 WILL BE PLACED IN THE REDEPLOYING SERVICE MEMBER'S HEALTH RECORD. A PAPER OR ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE DD 2796 WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE ARMY MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITY (AMSA) AT AMSA; BUILDING T-20, ROOM 213; ATTN: DEPLOYMENT FORMS; 6900 GEORGIA AVENUE, NW; WASHINGTON, DC 20307-5001; COMM: 202 782-0471, DSN: 662-0471. AMSA WEBSITE IS: [HTTP://AMSA.ARMY.MIL](http://amsa.army.mil).

5. FACE-TO-FACE HEALTH ASSESSMENTS WITH PERSONNEL WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A PHYSICIAN, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, NURSE PRACTITIONER, OR INDEPENDENT DUTY CORPSMAN. THIS ASSESSMENT WILL INCLUDE A DISCUSSION OF: (1) THE REDEPLOYING SERVICE MEMBER'S RESPONSES TO THE HEALTH ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS ON THE REVISED DD FORM 2796, (2) MENTAL HEALTH OR PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES COMMONLY ASSOCIATED WITH DEPLOYMENTS, (3) SPECIAL MEDICATIONS TAKEN DURING THE DEPLOYMENT, AND (4) CONCERNS ABOUT POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL OR OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES.

A. ANY SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED SHOULD BE EVALUATED USING THE POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE (PDH-CPG), ALONG WITH OTHER APPLICABLE RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT: [WWW.PDHEALTH.MIL/MAIN.ASP](http://www.pdhealth.mil/main.asp).

B. REFERRALS GENERATED FROM THE PDHA WILL BE DOCUMENTED USING THE PDH-CPG ICD CODE V70.5__6.

C. MEDICAL PERSONNEL WILL BE FAMILIAR WITH THE PDH-CPG FOUND AT [HTTP://WWW.PDHEALTH.MIL/CLINICIANS/PDHEM/FRAMESET.HTM](http://www.pdhealth.mil/clinicians/pdhem/frameSet.htm).

6. REDEPLOYING MEMBERS WILL HAVE AN HIV BLOOD SAMPLE DRAWN WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RETURN TO HOME STATION OR DEMOBILIZATION SITE. BLOOD SAMPLES WILL BE SUBMITTED FOLLOWING THE CURRENT HIV PROGRAM FORMAT IAW REF G. EXCERPTS FROM REF G WITH CLARIFICATION ARE PROVIDED BELOW:

A. COLLECT SPECIMENS IN THE CONTRACTOR (VIROMED) SUPPLIED SERUM SEPARATOR TUBES (SSTS). SPIN DOWN (CENTRIFUGE) THE SPECIMENS WITHIN SIX HOURS OF COLLECTION TO COMPLETE SERUM SEPARATION. ENSURE THAT SPECIMENS IN SSTS ARE CENTRIFUGED (SPUN DOWN) PRIOR TO REFRIGERATION.

B. IN PREPARING SPECIMENS FOR SHIPPING, DO NOT POUR OFF SERUM FROM SSTS UNLESS THE SPECIMEN IS TO BE REFRIGERATED LONGER THAN 3 DAYS OR TO BE FROZEN. THEN THE SPECIMEN MUST BE POURED OFF INTO A DESIGNATED SHIPPING TUBE. PACKAGE SERUM SPECIMENS ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTOR. APPLY ID LABEL WITH MEMBERS FULL NAME, COMPLETE FMP/SSN, AND DATE OF BIRTH (DOB) TO THE UPPER HALF OF THE SST OR THE DESIGNATED SERUM SHIPPING TUBE. ALSO APPLY A BARCODE LABEL (CHCS OR PRE-PRINTED) TO EACH SST.

C. ARRANGE FOR SPECIMEN PICK-UP AND DELIVERY TO VIOMED, BY DESIGNATED COURIER SERVICE, THE SAME DAY AS DRAWN. UNITS SHALL FORWARD TEST ORDER DATA VIA APPROVED SECURE ELECTRONIC METHOD (CHCS OR HMSLOADER) TO VIOMED.

D. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT AFLOAT AND DEPLOYED UNITS SCHEDULE BLOOD DRAWING SO THAT SPECIMENS MAY BE SHIPPED PROMPTLY, TO AVOID HOLDING SPECIMENS IN THE ORIGINAL SST FOR LONGER THAN 3 CALENDAR DAYS. ONCE SPECIMENS ARE DRAWN, IF LONGER HANDLING AND STORAGE TIME IS REQUIRED, SPECIMENS SHALL BE PROCESSED AS FOLLOWS: SPIN DOWN (CENTRIFUGE) SPECIMENS WITHIN 6 HOURS OF COLLECTION; POUR OFF INTO DESIGNATED SCREW-CAPPED SHIPPING TUBES; APPLY ID LABEL WITH MEMBER'S FULL NAME, COMPLETE FMP/SSN, AND DATE OF BIRTH; AND REFRIGERATE (UP TO 7 DAYS) OR FREEZE (IF STORAGE REQUIRED LONGER THAN 7 DAYS). SERA MUST NOT BE FROZEN WHILE STILL IN SERUM SEPARATOR TUBES.

E. THE USE OF POUR OFF OR ALIQUOT TUBES IS NOT RECOMMENDED. SUBMITTING ACTIVITIES SHALL NOT DISTRIBUTE OR USE SSTs FOR POUR OFF. IF SSTs ARE NOT AVAILABLE, SUBMITTING ACTIVITIES AND UNITS SHALL DRAW BLOOD SPECIMENS IN A RED TOP COLLECTION TUBE. AFTER CENTRIFUGE (SPIN DOWN), POUR OFF SERA INTO DESIGNATED SCREW-CAPPED SHIPPING TUBES.

F. AFLOAT AND DEPLOYED UNITS WILL SHIP THEIR SPECIMENS USING THE NEXT AVAILABLE LOCATION THAT CAN ACCEPT HIV SPECIMENS FOR SHIPPING TO VIOMED. UNITS MUST NOTIFY THE RECEIVING MTF PRIOR TO SHIPPING SPECIMENS.

7. REFS A AND B REQUIRE A QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) PROGRAM TO ENSURE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF ENHANCED PDHA ELEMENTS. EACH DEPLOYING UNIT MUST CLOSELY TRACK THE FOLLOWING DATA ELEMENTS. BE PREPARED TO REPORT, AS DIRECTED SEPCOR, FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS AFTER ANY DEPLOYMENT.

- A. NUMBER OF PERSONNEL DEPLOYED.
- B. NUMBER OF PERSONNEL REDEPLOYED.
- C. NUMBER OF PERSONNEL SCREENED USING FORM DD 2796.
- D. NUMBER OF PERSONNEL COMPLETING THE POST-DEPLOYMENT BLOOD DRAW.
- E. NUMBER OF PERSONNEL REQUIRING A REFERRAL/CONSULT AS A RESULT OF PDHA SCREENING.
- F. NUMBER OF PERSONNEL COMPLETING INITIAL REFERRAL EVALUATION.

8. RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS SHOULD COMPLETE PDHA UPON REDEPLOYMENT WITH THEIR ACTIVE DUTY UNIT. IF THEY HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE PDHA UPON REDEPLOYMENT, THEN THEY MUST COMPLETE THE PDHA AT NAVAL MOBILIZATION PROCESSING SITES (NMPS) DURING DEMOBILIZATION.

9. REF H DIRECTS PROCEDURES FOR DEMOBILIZATION OF NAVAL RESERVISTS RECALLED IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS NOBLE EAGLE, ENDURING FREEDOM AND IRAQI FREEDOM. DETAILED DEMOBILIZATION GUIDANCE IS POSTED ON THE BUPERS WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.PERSNET.NAVY.MIL/PERS9/INDEX.HTM](http://www.persnet.navy.mil/pers9/index.htm).

10. ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION ARE:

- A. NAVY ENVIRONMENTAL AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE UNIT (NEPMU) TWO, AT COM: (757)444-7671, DSN: 564-7671, EMAIL: NEPMU2@NEPMU2.MED.NAVY.MIL.
- B. NEPMU FIVE, AT COM: (619) 556-7070, DSN: 526-7070, EMAIL: NEPMU5@NEPMU5.MED.NAVY.MIL.

- C. NEPMU SIX, AT COM: (808)473-0555, DSN: 473-0555, EMAIL: NEPMU6@NEPMU6.MED.NAVY.MIL.
- D. NEPMU SEVEN, AT TEL: 39-095-86-9251, DSN: 624-9251, EMAIL: NEPMU7@NEPMU7.SICILY.NAVY.MIL.
- E. DOD POST DEPLOYMENT HEALTH WEBSITE: WWW.PDHEALTH.MIL.