



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

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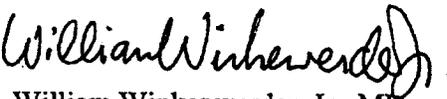
MEMORANDUM FOR SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

SUBJECT: Implementation of Department of Defense/Veteran Affairs Post-Deployment Health Evaluation and Management Clinical Practice Guideline

In early 2001, the Department of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Affairs (VA) completed development and initial pilot testing of a Post-Deployment Health Evaluation and Management (PDH) (CPG). Please reference the ASD(HA) Memo dated December 20, 2001 at TAB A. The guideline provides a structure for primary care providers to evaluate and manage patients with deployment related health concerns including family members of recently deployed personnel. DoD-wide implementation will begin on January 31, 2002. The DoD Deployment Health Clinical Center, established in September 1999 by ASD(HA) policy directive (TAB B) will provide overall clinical support and assistance and serve as a Center of Excellence for post-deployment health concerns.

To kick off DoD-wide implementation, a satellite broadcast is planned for January 30, 2002, 1300 to 1500 hours Eastern Standard Time. Each DoD medical treatment facility will receive a PDH CPG tool kit shortly before the broadcast. The target audience consists of all members of the direct care and operational medicine healthcare teams. Details on the broadcast are at TAB C. For questions on the PDH guideline or the satellite broadcast, please contact LTC Charles Engel, Director, Deployment Health Clinical Center, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, (202) 782-8064 or LTC Kathy Dolter, Practice Guideline Project Officer, Quality Management Directorate, US Army Medical Command, (210) 221-6195 or DSN 471-6195. Information is also available at the DoD Deployment Health web site <http://www.pdhealth.mil>

In light of the recent terrorist events and the subsequent deployment of military forces, it is imperative that we stand ready to address the post-deployment health concerns of our service members and their families. The Post-Deployment Health Clinical Practice Guideline will help us meet this challenge.


William Winkenwerder, Jr., MD

Attachments

- A. Dec 20, 00 ASD(HA) Memo w/ attachments
- B. Sep 30, 99 ASD(HA) Memo w/ attachments
- C. Info Paper, Implementation of DoD/VA PDH CPG