

**MILPER MESSAGE NUMBER : 05-068**  
**DASG-HCA**  
**PAUSE OF THE ANTHRAX PROGRAM AND EXPANSION OF SMALLPOX  
VACCINATION PROGRAMS**  
Issued: [03/10/2005]

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1. REFERENCES:

A. ALARACT MESSAGE DATED 21 DEC 02, SUBJ: (U) SMALLPOX VACCINATION PROGRAM (SVP)

B. VCSA MEMO DATED 10 JAN 03, SUBJ: (U) ARMY SMALLPOX VACCINATION PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

C. DEPSECDEF MEMO DATED 28 JUN 04, SUBJ: (U) EXPANSION OF FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION ANTHRAX AND SMALLPOX IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS FOR DOD PERSONNEL

D. ALARACT MESSAGE DATED 17 JUL 04, SUBJ: (U) EXPANSION OF ANTHRAX AND SMALLPOX VACCINATION PROGRAMS

E. SECDEF MEMO DATED 27 OCT 04, SUBJ: (U) ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM PAUSE

F. ALARACT MESSAGE DATED 28 OCT 04. SUBJ: (U) TEMPORARILY STOP GIVING ANTHRAX IMMUNIZATION

G. ALARACT MESSAGE DATED 25 JAN 05. SUBJ: (U) EXPANSION OF SMALLPOX IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM FOR EMERGENCY-ESSENTIAL AND EQUIVALENT DOD CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

2. REFS A-D AND G PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS. ON 28 JUN 04, THE DOD EXPANDED THE SMALLPOX PROGRAM TO INCLUDE US FORCES KOREA (USFK) AND THE ENTIRE US CENTRAL COMMAND (USCENTCOM) AREA OF OPERATIONS (AOR). THE EXPANSION APPLIES TO PERSONNEL PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED, DEPLOYING TO OR TDY FOR GREATER THAN 15 CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO KOREA OR ANY COUNTRY IN THE USCENTCOM AOR. THE VACCINATION IS MANDATORY FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL UNLESS EXEMPTED, AND VOLUNTARY FOR APPROPRIATE FAMILY MEMBERS LOCATED IN OR ACCOMPANYING SOLDIERS TO KOREA. (NOTE: SMALLPOX VACCINE IN PRE-OUTBREAK SETTINGS IS LICENSED FOR USE IN PEOPLE 18 YEARS OR OLDER.)

3. (REF E & F) IMPLEMENT THE IMMEDIATE, TOTAL FORCE PAUSE OF THE ANTHRAX VACCINATION PROGRAM, WITHOUT EXCEPTION. ON OCTOBER 27, 2004, THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ISSUED AN INJUNCTION AGAINST THE CURRENT OPERATION OF THE ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (AVIP). THE INJUNCTION IS BASED ON A CONCLUSION BY THE COURT THAT THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) WAS REQUIRED BY ITS REGULATIONS TO SOLICIT ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS BEFORE FINALIZING ITS CONCLUSION THAT ANTHRAX VACCINE IS SAFE AND EFFECTIVE FOR PROTECTION AGAINST INHALATIONAL ANTHRAX.

WHILE THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PROCEED WITH STEPS TO CLARIFY THESE LEGAL ISSUES, DOD WILL IMMEDIATELY COMPLY. STOP GIVING ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, NO EXCEPTIONS. DOD REMAINS CONVINCED THAT THE AVIP COMPLIES WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND THAT ANTHRAX VACCINE IS SAFE AND EFFECTIVE.

4. TO ENSURE INITIATION OF SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE TO KOREA AND USCENTCOM AOR COUNTRIES, ORDERS ISSUING AUTHORITIES WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN THE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS IN ALL PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION (PCS) ORDERS, AND DEPLOYMENT / TEMPORARY DUTY ASSIGNMENT (TDY) ORDERS EXCEEDING 15 DAYS:

**“SMALLPOX VACCINATION IS REQUIRED FOR YOUR PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT, OR DEPLOYMENT / TDY (IF GREATER THAN 15 DAYS) IN KOREA OR THE USCENTCOM AOR. SOLDIERS WILL INITIATE SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS AT LEAST 60 DAYS OUT FROM PCS, DEPLOYMENT, OR TDY. INDIVIDUALS SHOULD ARRIVE IN KOREA OR USCENTCOM AOR HAVING RECEIVED THE SMALLPOX VACCINATION UNLESS MEDICALLY EXEMPT. SEASONALLY, GIVE THE INFLUENZA VACCINATION BEFORE DEPARTURE.”**

5. ALL IMMUNIZATIONS WILL BE POSTED AND TRACKED IN THE MEDICAL PROTECTION SYSTEM (MEDPROS), THE HQDA STANDARD FOR TRACKING ALL INDIVIDUAL MEDICAL READINESS INDICATORS IN THE ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENTS. LEADERS AT ALL LEVELS CAN TRACK INDIVIDUAL AND UNIT COMPLIANCE USING MEDPROS. MEDPROS CAN BE ACCESSED ON THE INTERNET AT [WWW.MODS.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.MODS.ARMY.MIL). USERS MAY REQUEST A LOGON ID DIRECTLY FROM THE WEBSITE OR BY CALLING THE MODS HELP DESK AT DSN 761-4976 OR 1-888-849-4341 FOR ASSISTANCE.

6. HQDA POC FOR THIS MESSAGE IS MAJ DAVID BEAUCHENE, 703.681.5101 OR DSN 761.5101, OR EMAIL: [VACCINES@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL](mailto:VACCINES@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL).

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