



UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

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PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

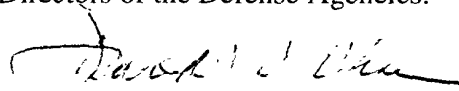
MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
COMMANDANT OF THE US COAST GUARD

SUBJECT: Administrative and Clinical Execution Guidance for Reintroduction of the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program (AVIP)

In accordance with the Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum dated June 28, 2002, Subject: Reintroduction of the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program (AVIP), the attached policies shall be used as administrative and clinical guidance for effective program implementation. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) serves as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense for the AVIP, and shall provide additional guidance, as necessary, to the Military Departments and other appropriate DoD components on the immunization of personnel for biological warfare defense, and will monitor and evaluate the implementation of DoD policy.

The Secretary of the Army, as the Executive Agent for the AVIP, will manage and direct the vaccination of identified personnel within the Uniformed Services consistent with DoD policy, the threat, availability of FDA-released anthrax vaccine, and priorities established by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Executive Agent shall issue operational instructions to the Services, serve as a focal point for the submission of information from the Services, and will monitor Service implementation of the program. The Executive Agent shall recommend appropriate changes in the AVIP to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), and shall report quarterly on program execution.

In coordination with the Secretary of the Army, the Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Commandant of the Coast Guard will execute vaccinations within their respective forces, providing an added layer of protection to forces at higher risk for exposure to *Bacillus anthracis* in the identified higher threat areas, consistent with the priorities of the Combatant Commanders. Effective program implementation continues to be the responsibility of the Secretary of the Army as Executive Agent for the AVIP, the designated senior military officers of the Services, and the Directors of the Defense Agencies.


David S. C. Chu

