

MILPER MESSAGE NUMBER : 04-237
DASG-HCA
EXPANSION OF ANTHRAX AND SMALLPOX VACCINATION PROGRAMS
...Issued: [08/16/2004]...

1. REFERENCES:

A. ALARACT MESSAGE DATED 2 JUL 02, SUBJ: (U) RESUMPTION OF THE ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (AVIP)

B. VCSA MEMO DATED 24 SEP 02, SUBJ: (U) ARMY ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM RESUMPTION EXECUTION PLAN

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

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

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

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

2. REFS A-D PROVIDED GUIDANCE FOR RESUMPTION OF ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS AND INITIATION OF SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS BEGINNING IN JUL AND DEC 02. ON 28 JUN 04, DOD EXPANDED THESE PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE US FORCES KOREA (USFK) AND THE ENTIRE US CENTRAL COMMAND (USCENTCOM) AREA OF OPERATIONS (AOR) (REF E-F). THE EXPANDED POLICY IMMEDIATELY APPLIES TO PERSONNEL PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED, AND PERSONNEL DEPLOYED OR TDY FOR GREATER THAN 15 CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO KOREA OR ANY COUNTRY IN THE USCENTCOM AOR. THE VACCINATIONS ARE MANDATORY FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL UNLESS EXEMPTED, AND VOLUNTARY FOR APPROPRIATE FAMILY MEMBERS LOCATED IN OR ACCOMPANYING SOLDIERS TO KOREA. (NOTE: ANTHRAX VACCINE IS LICENSED FOR USE IN PEOPLE 18 TO 65 YEARS OF AGE. SMALLPOX VACCINE IN PRE-OUTBREAK SETTINGS IS LICENSED FOR USE IN PEOPLE 18 YEARS OR OLDER.)

3. TO ENSURE INITIATION OF ANTHRAX AND 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:
“ANTHRAX AND SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR YOUR PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT, OR DEPLOYMENT / TDY (IF GREATER THAN 15 DAYS) IN KOREA OR THE USCENTCOM AOR. SOLDIERS WILL INITIATE OR UPDATE ANTHRAX AND SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS AT LEAST 60 DAYS OUT FROM PCS,

DEPLOYMENT, OR TDY. INDIVIDUALS SHOULD ARRIVE IN KOREA OR USCENTCOM AOR HAVING COMPLETED THE SMALLPOX VACCINATION AND RECEIVED, AT A MINIMUM, THREE ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS.”

4. SOLDIERS RESUMING ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS UNDER THE SEP 02 RESUMPTION POLICY (REF B) OR THE EXPANDED POLICY IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE (REF E-F) WILL CONTINUE THE DOSING SERIES WHERE THEY LEFT OFF. THESE SOLDIERS WILL NOT NEED TO REPEAT ANY DOSES ALREADY RECEIVED IN THE SERIES. THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH GUIDANCE FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) AND PREVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES AND THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) APPROVED DOSING SCHEDULE. THE FDA APPROVED SCHEDULE FOR ANTHRAX VACCINE IS A 6 DOSE SERIES GIVEN: 0, 2, AND 4 WEEKS; THEN 6, 12, AND 18 MONTHS FOLLOWED BY ANNUAL BOOSTERS THEREAFTER. THE INITIAL SERIES AND BOOSTERS MUST BE CONTINUED EVEN IF PERSONNEL REDEPLOY OUTSIDE THE USFK, CENTCOM THEATER OF OPERATIONS.

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. 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.

7. HQDA POC FOR THIS MESSAGE IS MAJ DAVID BEAUCHENE, 703.681.5101 OR DSN 761.5101, OR EMAIL: VACCINES@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL.

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