



Department of Defense

INSTRUCTION

NUMBER 1000.24
May 22, 2003

ASD(HA)

SUBJECT: Confiscation of Fraudulent Identification (ID) Cards at Military Treatment Facilities

References: (a) DoD Directive 1000.22, "Uniformed Services Identification (ID) Cards," October 8, 1997
(b) Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code

1. PURPOSE

Pursuant to reference (a), this Instruction:

1.1. Implements policy for eliminating the fraudulent use of Identification Cards (ID) issued to Members of the Uniformed Services, their dependents, and other eligible individuals for health care provided in the Military Health System (MHS) Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs).

1.2. Assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures for MTFs regarding the verification and confiscation of ID cards.

2. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

This Instruction applies to:

2.1. The Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, and all other organizational entities in the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components").

2.2. The Coast Guard when it is not operating as a Military Service in the Department of the Navy by agreement with the Department of Homeland Security; and

the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), under agreements with the Department of Health and Human Services (hereafter referred to collectively as "Other Uniformed Services"). The term "Military Services," as used herein, refers to the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard; and their respective National Guard and Reserve components. The term "Uniformed Services" refers to the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, the Commissioned Corps of the USPHS, and the Commissioned Corps of the NOAA.

3. POLICY

It is DoD policy under reference (a) that ID cards issued to members of the Uniformed Services shall be used:

3.1. In identifying their status as active duty, Reserve, retired members, or dependents.

3.2. As an identification card for Uniformed Services' benefits and privileges; including healthcare services in accordance with Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code (reference (b)).

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) under the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, shall:

4.1.1. Establish overall policy and procedures for providing medical care through the MHS to authorized beneficiaries and the elimination of fraud, waste, and abuse in the provision of medical benefits.

4.1.2. Monitor compliance with this Instruction.

4.1.3. Modify or supplement this Instruction, as needed.

4.2. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall comply with this Instruction.

5. PROCEDURES

Confiscation of invalid ID cards:

5.1. Each Military Department shall develop an ID card fraud policy and program for implementation at their MTFs that shall include the following elements:

5.1.1. Establish an identification card review process. This process shall entail the procedures to be utilized by each MTF to check the validity of ID cards when beneficiaries present themselves for medical treatment.

5.1.2. At a minimum, this ID validity check process should include a 100-percent check utilizing the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) prior to treating military personnel, retirees, their dependents or any other seeking healthcare. This requirement does not apply in the case of a medical emergency in which, under applicable MTF procedures, care would be provided even if the patient were not an eligible beneficiary.

5.1.3. In addition, a physical review of the ID card shall be accomplished to determine if:

5.1.3.1. The photo identification matches the beneficiary.

5.1.3.2. The entitlement dates are appropriate.

5.1.3.3. The beneficiary is authorized medical care; and

5.1.3.4. The ID card has not been tampered with.

5.2. If physical review of the ID card determines that the individual is not entitled to medical treatment in the MHS, the ID card is to be confiscated.

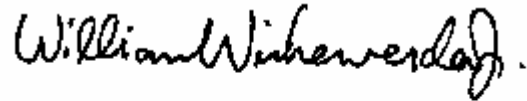
5.2.1. A representative from the MTF shall take control of the ID card. The MTF's servicing military criminal investigative organization should be notified when the MTF suspects that the ID card has been tampered with or is being fraudulently used.

5.2.2. The MTF is to mail the confiscated ID card to the nearest DEERS/Realtime Automated Personnel Identification System (DEERS/RAPIDS) facility. Some type of trackable means must be utilized to ensure that the MTF can confirm that the confiscated ID card has been received by the DEERS/RAPIDS facility.

5.2.3. If medical treatment has already been provided, the MTF or TMA shall take the necessary action to initiate administrative recoupment actions for the costs of the unauthorized military medical benefit.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Instruction is effective immediately.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Winkenwerder, Jr." with a period at the end. The signature is written in a cursive style.

William Winkenwerder, Jr., MD
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)