



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
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IN REPLY REFER TO

BUMEDINST 6270.8B

BUMED-M44

3 Apr 2008

BUMED INSTRUCTION 6270.8B

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: All Ships and Stations with Navy Medical Personnel

Subj: OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENTS

Ref: (a) DODINST 5000.2 of 12 May 2003
(b) DOD Directive 5000.1 of 12 May 2003
(c) DODINST 6055.5 of 10 January 1989
(d) SECNAVINST 5100.10J
(e) OPNAVINST 5100.19E
(f) OPNAVINST 5100.23G
(g) OPNAVINST 5100.24B
(h) OPNAVINST 5090.1C

1. Purpose. To assign responsibilities within the Navy Medical Department for performing Health Hazard Assessments (HHA).
2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 6270.8A.
3. Background. References (a) and (b) guide the Services in support of defense acquisition programs and require occupational hazard risk reduction across operational systems. References (c) through (h) require the Department of the Navy to provide early identification and resolution of recognized health hazards during development and fielding of operational platforms. To assist with maintaining operational readiness, Navy Medicine provides HHAs for submarines, surface vessels, aircraft, and shore activities.
4. Discussion. HHAs are evaluations to inform acquisition program managers of potential health effects associated with the use of a product, chemical, or the operation of equipment. Assessments may be requested to evaluate new products or processes; consider changes to previously evaluated products and processes; or address reformulations of products. Relevant human health impact due to environmental pollutants may also be addressed. It is incumbent on acquisition program managers and Commands to seriously address safety and occupational health risks when selecting materials or processes.
5. Responsibilities
 - a. Commanding Officer, Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center shall:
 - (1) Provide HHAs upon request to Navy and Marine Corps acquisition program managers, shore activities, ships, and other operational commands.

(2) Provide HHA requirements, including details on how to request an HHA and required supporting documentation available at www-nmcphc.med.navy.mil/IH/index.htm.

(3) Ensure that HHAs are conducted objectively using the most current information and sound scientific principles. The safety and health of service members and civilian employees shall be the primary consideration for assessments and recommendations.

(4) Coordinate with Naval Health Research Center Detachment/Environmental Health Effects Laboratory (NHRCD/EHEL) to resolve data gaps for materials in operational areas of concern.

b. Officer in Charge, NHRCD/EHEL shall:

(1) Evaluate scientific and toxicological literature upon request from the Commanding Officer, Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center.

(2) Identify data gaps and make recommendations for research.

(3) Coordinate research to mitigate health hazard risks when warranted or provide alternative options for research. Recommendations for research or literature reviews should identify the required financial or human resources.


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