

13 Oct 10
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From: Naval Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Five
To: (a) Regional Preventive Medicine Authorities
(b) Regional Barracks/Housing Managers
(c) Regional Pest Control Shops

Subj: BED BUG INSPECTION AND CONTROL STANDARD OPERATING
PROCEDURES

Encl: (1) Bedbug Inspections and Treatment Plan
(2) Recommended actions in bedbug infestations ashore
(3) Recommended actions in bedbug infestation afloat

1. **Background.** Bed bug infestations can greatly affect the morale of personnel throughout the Navy and Marine Corps. Although bedbugs are not known to transmit diseases, their presence creates an issue that needs to be dealt with. Without proper intervention, they can be difficult to eradicate, especially once an infestation has been established. This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) will address the reporting, treatment and control of bedbug's infestation for Navy and Marine Corps installations within NEPMU-5's AOR.

2. **Responsibilities:**

(a) Naval Environmental Preventive Medicine Units (NEPMUs) are responsible for implementing policies and providing bed bug survey oversight, control and training for the regional Preventive Medicine Authorities (PMA) and barracks/housing managers. NEPMUs will serve as the liaison between barrack/housing managers, shipboard and Fleet Marine Force (FMF) medical departments.

(b) Unit Commanders of all shore activities of the Department of the Navy bear the basic responsibility for the maintenance of an adequate bed bug control program. This responsibility is normally delegated to the medical and public works departments.

(c) Unit Commanders afloat are assigned responsibility for maintaining effective and safe shipboard pest control programs.

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The medical department is responsible for the operation and supervision of the pest control program.

(d) PMAs are responsible for training inspecting personnel and ensuring that they are proficient in the inspection and treatment of bed bugs. They must also conduct periodic berthing inspections within their Area of Operations (AORs). Evidence of bed bugs must be reported immediately to the building/housing manager for appropriate action. Furthermore, local preventive medicine departments will maintain working relationships with their respective Naval Facilities (NAVFAC) or Public Works pest control shops.

(e) NAVFAC/Public Works pest control shops/contractors will perform initial chemical treatments as well as all follow-up treatments for any bed bug infestation that is reported within their AOR.

(f) Barracks/Housing Manager's primary responsibility is to ensure his/her rooms are free of bed bugs. Any bed bug infestations must be reported to NAVFAC/Public Works pest control without regard to the severity of the infestation. More importantly, all complaints of infestation must also be reported to the local PMA or cognizant NEPMU.

2. Inspection and Reporting:

(a) **Preventive Medicine Authorities.** Local PMAs will conduct frequent inspections of the barracks/housing in their AORs. Due to manpower limitations, it is not necessary to inspect all the rooms. At a minimum, ten percent of the rooms in a given building must be inspected. The inspection can coincide with monthly habitability inspections. All inspections must be thorough with increased attention to the mattresses, box springs, bed frames and headboards. If bedbugs are discovered, all adjoining rooms must also be inspected. Any evidence of bedbugs must be reported immediately to the barracks/housing manager or personnel on duty.

(b) **Barracks/Housing Manager.** When a bedbug infestation is reported, the barracks/housing managers must move that tenant to a new room. All clothing and linen must be contained, washed in hot water and dried before the new room can be occupied to prevent spreading of the infestation. The infested room must

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remain vacant until final inspection, ensuring the infestation is eradicated. The barracks/housing manager will notify NAVFAC/Public Works pest control of the bedbug infestation in the building and arrangements will be made to have the room treated at the earliest possible time. After the re-treatment is completed, the barracks/housing manager will ensure the room thoroughly cleaned. The discarding of mattresses and other furniture is at the discretion of the barracks/housing managers with strong consideration of the local PMA recommendations.

(c) **Public Works Pest Control.** After Public Works Pest Control is notified by the PMA and barracks/housing manager regarding a bedbug infestation, NAVFAC/Public Works pest control will perform chemical treatment of the infested room as well as adjoining rooms. Once the initial treatment is completed, NAVFAC/Public Works pest control will perform a mandatory retreatment of the room after 48 hours. After the second treatment is completed, the local PMA will be notified for re-inspection. If any bedbugs are found after the second treatment, the process of chemical re-treatment and re-inspection will continue until all bedbugs have been eradicated from the infested room (Enclosures 1, 2).

(d) **Naval vessels afloat and submarines forces.** Due to the complex nature of infestations onboard naval vessels, bedbug infestations will be reported to NEPMU-5 by the shipboard preventive medicine technician/medical department representative. NEPMU-5's Vector Control Department will provide treatments and/or guidance on a case-by-case basis (Enclosure 3).

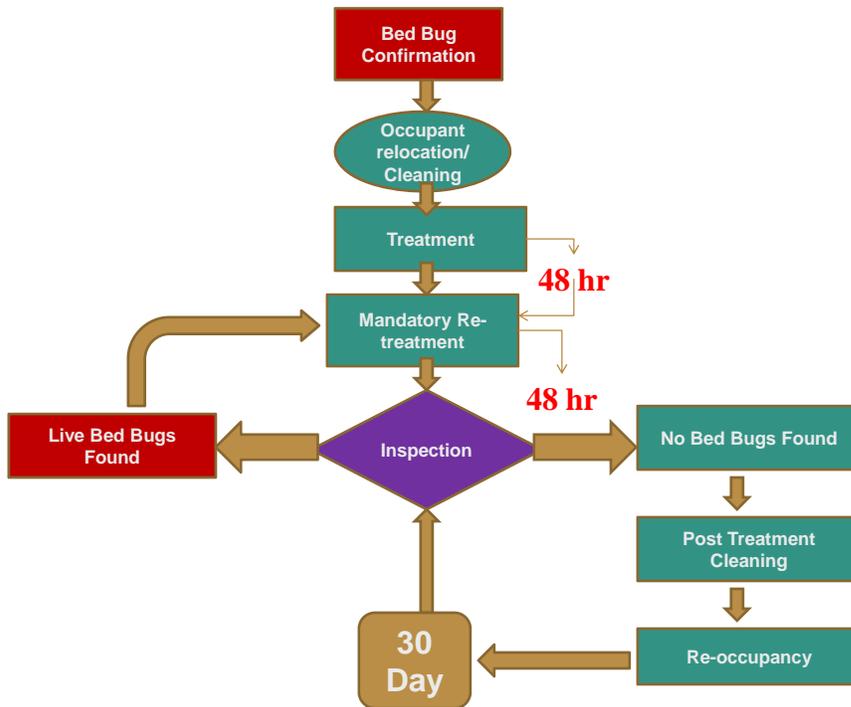
3. Any concerns not covered by this SOP, please contact NEPMU-5 for further guidance regarding surveillance, treatment and education of personnel.

4. My point of contact is Dr William Tozer or LT Ephraim Ragasa MSC USN at (619) 556-6000/7070.

J. E. LAMAR II

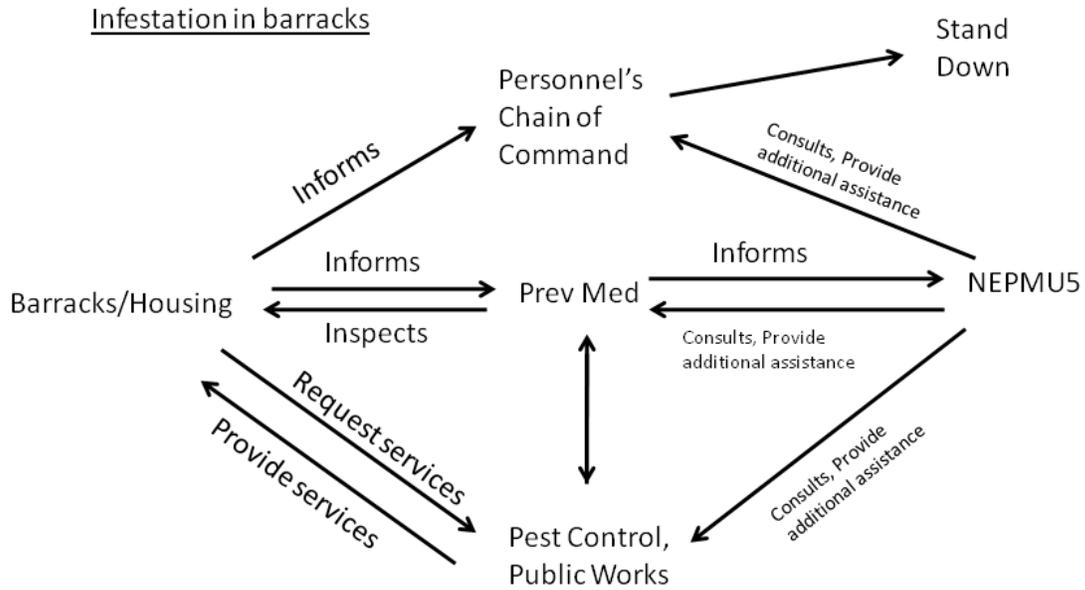
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Bedbug Inspections and Treatment Plan



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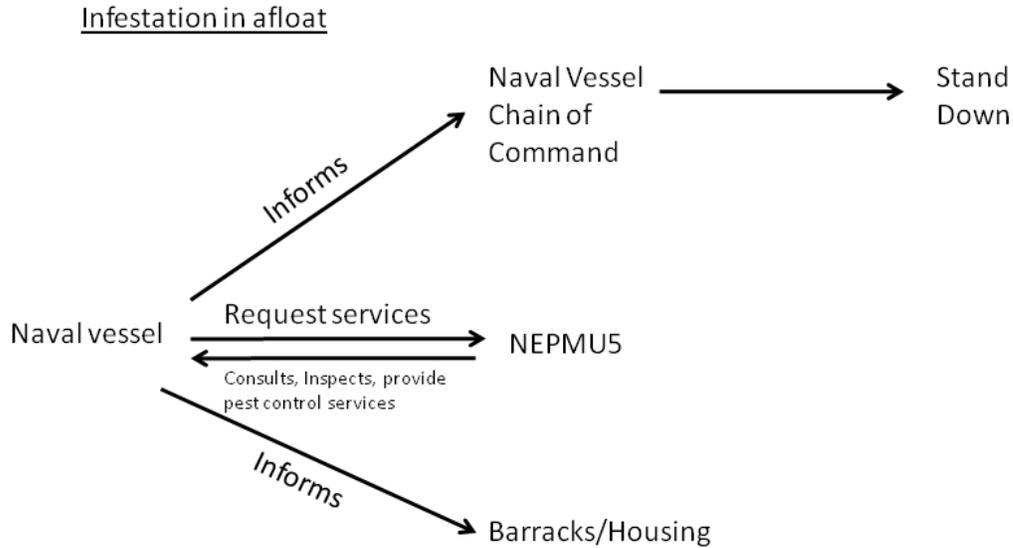
Recommended Actions for Bed Bug Infestations Ashore



****Organic Preventive Medicine will take the lead in bed bug infestation ashore****

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Recommended Actions for Bed Bug Infestations Afloat



****In these situations, NEPMU should take the lead in bed bug management****