

**Change 153**  
**Manual of the Medical Department**  
**U.S. Navy**  
**NAVMED P-117**

23 Oct 2015

To: Holders of the Manual of the Medical Department

1. **This Change**

a. Updates article 14-11, Mission and Elements of the NAOPP, article 14-11(2)(b), Operational Physiology Program. This change deletes “with Marine Expeditionary Forces” and replaces it with “in support of operational forces.”

b. Updates article 14-14, Naval Aerospace Physiology Program Planning Committee (NAP<sup>3</sup>C), article 14-14(2)(d). This change deletes “The ten senior aerospace/operational physiologist lieutenants shall elect this individual for a 2-year term” and replaces it with “All post-internship NAOPs below the rank of O-4 must be eligible to vote to elect this individual for a 2-year term.”

2. **Action**

- a. Remove pages 14-8 and 14-10 and replace with enclosure (1).
- b. Record this Change 153 in the Record of Page Changes.



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aspects of flight and survival. These aspects include human factors and physiological threats related to the flight environment, physiological elements to enhance flight mission performance, mishap prevention, mishap and hostility survival, aircrew systems applications, and correct emergency egress and rescue procedures. NASTP requirements are CNO directed, BUMED is assigned as the TA. Implementation follows the BUMED NASTP Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Manual. The NASTP includes Quality Assurance and Revalidation (QA&R) of the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division (NAWTSD) Orlando-managed NASTP training devices and associated equipment. A Training Management Team (TMT) is chartered to prioritize resources to meet Fleet training requirements.

(b) **Operational Physiology Program.** The purpose of the Operational Physiology Program is to provide specialized consultation, assistance, technical liaison, evaluations, training and recommendations directly to and working directly in support of operational forces. Operational Physiologists generally serve in the Operations, Training, or Safety Departments.

(c) **AMSO Program.** The purpose of the AMSO Program is to provide specialized consultation, assistance, technical liaison, evaluations, training, and recommendations directly to and working directly with the Navy and Marine Corps aviation community. AMSOs serve multifaceted roles within safety, operations, and training departments.

(d) **Fleet Air Introduction and Liaison of Survival Aircrew Flight Equipment (FAILSAFE) Program.** The NAVAIR-sponsored FAILSAFE Program augments and facilitates the introduction of new and modified items of Aviation Life Support Equipment (ALSS) to Fleet aviation. The FAILSAFE program interfaces with all facets of aircrew system acquisition including: requirements identification; design research; development; testing and evaluation; Fleet introduction; modifications; maintenance; training (maintainers and users); life cycle support; and use. A memorandum of understanding exists between BUMED and NAVAIR governing the program.

(e) **System Acquisitions and RDT&E.** System acquisitions and RDT&E is supported by NAOPPs in aircrew system requirements, human performance, operational readiness, and survival systems arenas.

Aerospace/operational physiologists are detailed to medical research centers/facilities, Naval Air Systems Commands, HQMC Aviation Weapon System Requirements Branch, and line communities.

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## 14-12

### Implementation and Management of the NAOPP

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(1) **Implementation.** The mission is accomplished by means of:

(a) Management and implementation of the components of the NAOPP in compliance with CNO (N98) and Commander Naval Air Forces policies through AMSOs, aerospace safety corpsmen (AMSCs), and aerospace/operational physiologists and their assistants at aviation survival training centers (ASTCs) throughout the Navy and Marine Corps.

(b) Support of aeromedical and aircrew systems acquisition and RDT&E programs.

(c) Professional and technical career development of officers, enlisted personnel, and civilians assigned to support the NAOPP. Naval aerospace/operational physiologist officer career progression goals are established and available, as is a formalized BUMED-approved Aerospace/Operational Physiologist Internship Program for mentoring first tour officers.

(d) A BUMED NASTP standard operating procedures manual and Job Qualification Requirements (JQR) for all training evolutions/devices have been established and are in place ensuring safe implementation of high risk training.

(e) Established NASTP safety, standardization, training quality assessments, and QA&R Program of inspections for all ASTCs.

(f) Support to human performance enhancement, force preservation, and mishap prevention through training and education.

(2) **BUMED Management.** The NAOPP is managed by the Director, Aerospace/Operational Physiology.

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## 14-13 Responsibilities of the NAOPP

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(1) **Chief, BUMED.** BUMED is assigned as the NAOPP manager and by CNO as the NASTP TA. To fulfill responsibilities it shall:

(a) Coordinate the implementation of training requirements with the CNO, Commandant of the Marine Corps, Commander Naval Air Forces, and Naval Air Systems Command.

(b) Sanction training, prioritize the major claimant's requirements, and expedite programs for all NAOPP elements.

(c) Act as the central point of contact in matters pertaining to NAOPP program policy and safety.

(d) Approve the curricula developed for training aerospace/operational physiologists and aerospace physiology technicians.

(e) Assign a specialty leader for matters pertaining to the personnel required to support the NAOPP including acquisition, education, officer and enlisted billet distribution, and officer billet nominations.

(f) Advise Commander, Naval Air Forces on the impact of new systems and technology on aircrews in areas such as night vision devices, laser devices and weapons, chemical, biological, and radiological threats, Gravity-Tolerance Improvement Program, anthropometry, etc.

(2) **Naval Survival Training Institute (NSTI)** is assigned training responsibilities by BUMED and is assigned by OPNAV as the NASTP course curriculum model manager. To fulfill these responsibilities, NSTI shall:

(a) Develop and issue policies and procedures for safe and efficient implementation of the NASTP.

(b) Develop and maintain NASTP curricula.

(c) Compile and analyze data relating to training workload and safety.

(d) Conduct annual safety, standardization, training quality assessments, and QA&R inspections of ASTCs.

(e) Provide professional training for enlisted (Corpsman) leading to designation aerospace medical/physiology technicians (NEC HM-8406/8409).

(3) Naval Aerospace Medical Institute (NAMI) is assigned aeromedical training responsibilities and shall:

(a) Provide professional training for officers leading to designation as an aerospace/operational physiologist (subspecialty 1836).

(b) Provide professional training for enlisted (Corpsman) leading to designation as aerospace medical/physiology technicians (NEC HM-8406/8409).

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## 14-14 Naval Aerospace Physiology Program Planning Committee (NAP<sup>3</sup>C)

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(1) **Purpose**

(a) Implement the principles and processes of continuous quality improvement within the NAOPP using participatory management tools. Specifically, the NAP<sup>3</sup>C shall serve as the executive steering council (ESC) for the NAOPP. Members shall serve as assigned by the NAOPP chairman.

(b) Improve communications within the subspecialty by serving as a conduit of information and status reports for programs and projects to the program manager and specialty leader.

(c) Refine career pathways for aerospace physiologists. Coordinate with commands in reviewing billet requirements, distribution of billets, and career progress offered by each billet. Provide counsel to the program manager and specialty leader on the personal and educational requirements, as well as the career development for all aerospace/operational physiologists. Periodically review the established career progression pathway for aerospace/operational physiologists.

(d) Review requirements for members requesting to pursue Duty Under Instruction (DUINS). This would include the number of aerospace/operational physiologists in Full-Time In-Service Training (FTIST) and Full-Time Out-Service Training

(FTOST), types of degrees considered appropriate, and recommendations to the DUINS Board, specialty leader, and program manager.

(e) Recommend standardized internship training requirements for first tour aerospace physiologists. Monitor and periodically review the Internship Program to ensure it is remaining responsive to the needs of the individuals, the NASTP, and the operational forces in developing high caliber Naval officers, Medical Service Corps (MSC) officers, and aerospace/operational physiologists.

(f) Make recommendations on the training and distribution of aviation physiology technicians (NEC HM-8406/8409). Review JQRs for all billets following the guidelines in OPNAVINST 1000.16 series.

(g) Provide criteria for screening applicants for the aerospace/operational physiology subspecialty, i.e., minimum educational requirements, levels of experience, etc., to the specialty leader.

(h) Assist program manager and specialty leader in the implementation and monitoring of the QA&R Program. Provide the program manager or TA with recommendations on the procurement, modification, and maintenance of all training devices used in the NASTP via the TMT.

(i) Advise and assist the program manager and specialty leader in the management of the NASTP.

(j) Establish criteria for the awards provided by the NAOPP and vote for recipients in recognition of superior contributions. Periodically review the established NAOPP awards criteria and selection process procedures.

(k) Provide input on any other issues concerning the NAOPP as requested by the program manager or specialty leader.

(2) **Membership.** The membership shall consist of senior aerospace/operational physiologists assigned to key billets within the NAOPP and a junior officer representative (JO Rep).

(a) All members are full voting members.

(b) The NAP<sup>3</sup>C members are designated as such by assignment by the NAOPP manager.

(c) The NAP<sup>3</sup>C chairman shall be the aerospace/operational physiologist assigned to BUMED as the NAOPP manager.

(d) The JO Rep shall be a lieutenant willing to serve (lieutenants in the internship program and outside the continental United States (OCONUS) billets are excluded). All post-internship Naval aerospace operational physiologists below the rank of O-4 shall be eligible to vote to elect this individual for a 2-year term. Votes may be tallied virtually by the incumbent JO Rep.

(3) **Meetings.** The NAP<sup>3</sup>C will meet formally at least twice annually (in person or virtually) and otherwise stay in communication via electronic means.

(a) These meetings will be held in conjunction with other regularly scheduled program meetings when possible.

(b) The JO Rep serves as the recording secretary for the committee and will submit the minutes to the Chairman for approval.

(c) Meeting minutes will be distributed to all active duty aerospace/operational physiologists and other interested parties as requested.

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