



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD  
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042

IN REPLY REFER TO  
BUMEDINST 6120.27  
BUMED-N3  
21 Dec 2022

BUMED INSTRUCTION 6120.27

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE ROLES IN RESERVE  
COMPONENT MEDICAL EXAMS

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 6120.3A

Encl: (1) Roles of Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in Navy Reserve Examinations Based  
on Credentialing and Privileging Authority

1. Purpose. To provide clarification of the scope of practice for the advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) for the Reserve Component (RC) during Navy Reserve activity.
2. Scope and Applicability. This instruction applies to RC Service members only.
3. Background. All RC Service members are responsible for scheduling an annual Periodic Health Assessment (PHA), per reference (a). In addition to the PHA, there are other mandatory medical examinations per Service member readiness requirements. APRNs have a differing scope of practice according to their credentialing and privileging and dictate the examinations they are credentialed to perform. This instruction provides clear guidance for what medical examinations RC APRNs can provide during reserve activities, which are dictated by their credentialing authority.

4. Definitions

a. U.S. Military Provider. Department of Defense recognized health care providers such as: physicians, physician assistants, APRNs, and Independent Duty Corpsmen. Specifically, RC APRNs includes not only nurse practitioners, but other types of APRNs: family nurse practitioners, psychiatric nurse practitioners, pediatric nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and certified nurse midwives. Each of these providers is authorized by appropriate authority via active credentials and privileges to provide care for patients.

5. Scope of Practice

a. During a drill weekend, other examinations are often requested to be completed at the same time as the PHA. Enclosure (1) provides a detailed reference as to which APRN can perform the various individual examinations as authorized by appropriate authority via active and current core credentials and privileges.

b. The acute care nurse practitioners, adult nurse practitioners, and women's health nurse practitioners are not addressed in enclosure (1) since there are no RC billets for these APRNs and thus, the privileges are not applicable for these practitioners.

c. Reserve APRN is only granted core privileges and is not authorized supplemental privileges while serving in the RC. This may be changed if the particular Service provider is serving on active duty and applies for specific supplemental privileges.

#### 6. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy Directorate for Administration, Logistics, and Operations, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the Department of the Navy Directorate for Administration, Logistics, and Operations, Directives and Records Management Division program office.

7. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, Force Medical Readiness (BUMED-N34) will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.

  
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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via the Navy Medicine Web site at, <https://www.med.navy.mil/Directives/>

ROLES OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE  
IN NAVY RESERVE EXAMINATIONS BASED ON CREDENTIALING  
AND PRIVILEGING AUTHORITY

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse					
Medical Examinations	Nurse Practitioners			Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	
	Family Nurse Practitioner	Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner <sup>2</sup>	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner <sup>3</sup>	Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	Certified Nurse Midwives <sup>4</sup>
	0963/1976	0963/1973	0963/1974	0952/1972	0963/1981
Electronic Periodic Health Assessment	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	Yes
Electronic Mental Health Assessment	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	Yes
Medical Record Review <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Physical Readiness Test or Physical Fitness Assessment Waiver	Yes	No	*	No	Yes <sup>5</sup>
Mobilization Physical	Yes	No	*	No	No
Demobilization Physical	Yes	No	*	No	No
Temporarily Not Physically Qualified, Limited Duty Status	Yes	Yes	*	No	Yes
Specialty Physicals (Dive, Flight, Special Operation, etc.)	Requires additional training and certification to complete.				
Department of Veterans Affairs Exam for Service Connected Disability	Completed by a credentialed, privileged Veterans Affairs provider.				
The chart lists a few of the assessments and exams performed by a military APRN. It is not all inclusive, additional exams or assessments may require further instructional reference.					

The chart notations are specific to the medical health care performed during the drill weekends.

1. Medical record review should be limited to review of information needed for care of the Service member under the provider's care.
2. The psychiatric nurse practitioner may complete temporarily not physically qualified or limited duty status of a Service member, limited to mental health states.
- 3\* The pediatric nurse practitioner may complete exams on Service members <18 years old.
4. The midwife may complete exams on female Service members.
5. The midwife may complete physical readiness test or physical fitness assessment waivers for female Service members. This includes non-pregnant females who are not excluded from the physical readiness test or physical fitness assessment per policy.