



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

Canc: Sep 2022  
IN REPLY REFER TO  
BUMEDNOTE 6150  
BUMED-CIC  
21 Sep 2021

BUMED NOTICE 6150 (Corrected Version)

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: GUIDANCE FOR CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 VACCINATION DEFERRAL  
STATUS REPORTING

Ref: (a) BUMEDINST 6230.15B  
(b) SECDEF memo of 24 Aug 21  
(c) DoD Instruction 6205.02 of 23 July 2019  
(d) CNO WASHINGTON DC 311913Z Aug 21 (NAVADMIN 190/21)  
(e) CMC WASHINGTON DC 011400Z Sep 21 (MARADMIN 462/21)  
(f) BUPERSINST 1730.11A  
(g) MCO 1730.9 of 12 July 2021  
(h) NAVPERS 15560D  
(i) BUMEDNOTE 6300 of 3 Sep 2021 (Canc: Sep 2022)

1. Purpose. Reference (a) establishes the tracking of readiness for naval forces in the Medical Readiness Reporting System (MRRS). This notice establishes the interim process for healthcare providers to document approved Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine exemptions per reference (a).

2. Scope and Applicability. This notice applies to all Navy Medicine healthcare providers delivering care to Sailors and Marines.

3. Background. With the release of reference (b) mandating COVID-19 vaccination of Service members, mandatory vaccination will be implemented consistent with reference (c). Deferrals documented as "Medical Decline" or "Medically Contraindicated" will no longer be valid options for COVID-19 vaccine exemptions. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of this notice provides clarifying guidance for documenting deferrals in MRRS specific to COVID-19 vaccination. Due to the impact of Hurricane Ida, MRRS is unable to fully accommodate tracking of deferral statuses for the COVID-19 vaccine. In the interim, the process listed in subparagraphs 4a through 4c will be used to document COVID-19 vaccine deferral status.

4. COVID-19 Vaccination Administering Requirements and Reporting:

a. Per reference (b), COVID-19 vaccination is mandatory for all Department of Defense Service members who are not medically or administratively exempt. Service members who are not medically or administratively exempt must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

b. Navy and Marine Corps Service members' vaccination administration compliance will be monitored via MRRS. Designated command personnel will access MRRS to track personnel to ensure compliance.

c. Per references (d) and (e), COVID-19 vaccinations will continue to be documented in an approved electronic health record (EHR) to the maximum extent practicable. When an approved EHR is not available, COVID-19 vaccinations will be entered in MRRS.

## 5. COVID-19 Vaccination Exemptions and Reporting

a. Per reference (a), there are two types of vaccination exemptions, medical and administrative. Administrative exemptions include religious accommodations. The process for obtaining exemptions for mandatory vaccinations is provided in reference (a), for medical and administrative exemptions and references (f) through (h), Military Personnel Manual, article 1730-020, for religious accommodations. Specifically for the COVID-19 vaccination, in addition to the processes in reference (a), the authority to grant approval of a permanent medical exemption for Navy personnel is the first Navy Medical Department flag officer in the medical provider's chain of command and will follow the process outlined in reference (i). For Marine Corps personnel, a permanent medical exemption must be approved per reference (e) and follow-on supplemental guidance. Navy Medical Departments may send questions regarding the permanent medical exemption process to [usn.ncr.bumedfchva.mbx.bumed---2019-ncov-response-cell@mail.mil](mailto:usn.ncr.bumedfchva.mbx.bumed---2019-ncov-response-cell@mail.mil).

### b. Process for Reporting of Exemptions:

(1) COVID-19 vaccine exemptions must be entered in MRRS via the "Multiple Medical Entry" or "Individual Immunization Entry" options.

(2) The MRRS "Comprehensive Medical Entry" option must not be used at this time to enter COVID-19 vaccination exemptions until MRRS is properly configured with the exemption options listed in the "Comprehensive Medical Entry" option. All entries using the deferral codes "Medical Decline" or "Medically Contraindicated" have been removed from MRRS reporting, and will be automatically deleted daily if used.

(3) Administrative exemptions for COVID-19 vaccine must be entered into MRRS. Additionally, administrative exemptions may also be documented within an approved EHR. Prior to documenting any administrative exemption in MRRS, proof of administrative exemption, where applicable, should be verified by the Service member's command and documentation provided to the individual documenting in MRRS.

(4) Medical exemption for COVID-19 vaccine should be entered in an approved EHR using the code "Medical Temporary" or "Medical Permanent." If unable to document with the appropriate code within the EHR, medical exemptions should be documented in MRRS. It is the responsibility of the medical department representative to ensure both the EHR and MRRS (both are required) reflect the appropriate medical exemption.

(5) The categories for COVID-19 exemptions are:

Deferral Code	Definitions	Duration
Admin Deceased (AD)	Individual is deceased	Indefinite
Admin Emergency Leave (AL)	Individual is on emergency leave	These designations will be in effect for only 30 days. After 30 days, the Service member will need to either receive the vaccine or update their deferral status.
Admin Permanent Change of Station (AP)	For individual already checked out of the command due to permanent change of station and awaiting to be gained at their next command. (Individuals should be vaccinated prior to permanent change status whenever possible)	
Admin Refusal (AR)	For individual without a medical contraindication who refused the vaccine and subjected to actions under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. (May be revoked at any time.)	
Admin Separation (AS)	Individuals currently on terminal leave only.	
Admin Temporary (AT)	For individual that is operationally unavailable for vaccination. For example, deployed to a location or region where the mandatory vaccine is unavailable.	
Religious Accommodation Requested (RA)	RA is a subcategory of AR but for COVID-19 vaccinations, RA will be used separately to identify individuals awaiting determination of a religious accommodation exemption.	
Medical Temporary (MT)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Individuals undergoing workup for Medical Contraindication to vaccination.</li> <li>2. Confirmed COVID-19 cases awaiting recovery.</li> <li>3. Pregnancy or other temporary medical contraindication as determined by a medical provider.</li> </ol> <p><u>Note:</u> Unless a Medical Evaluation Board is specifically related to a vaccine contraindication, MT must not be used for individuals awaiting Medical Evaluation Board, physical evaluation boards, or on limited duty.</p>	
Medical Permanent (MP)	Not an appropriate option to be entered at the unit-level. Permanent medical exemptions should be entered by the appropriate authority after approval has been granted per references (e) and (i).	Indefinite

6. Point of Contact. Questions may be e-mailed to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery crisis action team at [usn.ncr.bumedfchva.mbx.bumed---2019-ncov-response-cell@mail.mil](mailto:usn.ncr.bumedfchva.mbx.bumed---2019-ncov-response-cell@mail.mil).

7. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this notice 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 notice 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.

8. Information Management Control. The reports required in paragraphs 4 and 5, of this instruction are exempt from reports control per SECNAV M-5214.1 of December 2005, part IV, paragraph 7j.

  
G. D. SHAFFER  
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Releasability and distribution:

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