SUBJ/POLICY FOR INFLUENZA VACCINE USE FOR THE 2018-2019 INFLUENZA SEASON/

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REF/A/DOC/MEMO/ASD (HA)/05 JUL 2018
REF/B/DOC/ASD (HA)/4 APR 2008/
REF/C/DOC/BUMED/28 MAR 2018/
REF/D/DOC/BUMED/07 NOV 2013/
REF/E/DOC/MEMO/DHA/14 AUG 2018/
REF/F/DOC/NAVADMIN 255/18/18 OCT 2018/

NARR/REF A IS THE ASD (HA) MEMORANDUM, GUIDANCE FOR THE 2018-2019 ANNUAL INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM. REF B IS CURRENT ASD (HA) POLICY 08-005, POLICY FOR MANDATORY SEASONAL INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION FOR CIVILIAN HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL WHO PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES (MTFS). REF C IS THE BUMEDINST 6220.9B CH 1, POLICY ON THE HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM. REF D IS THE BUMEDINST 6230.15B, POLICY ON IMMUNIZATIONS AND CHEMOPROPHYLAXIS. REF E IS DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY 2018-2019 SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION PROGRAM GUIDANCE. REF F IS THE OPNAV 2018-2019 NAVY INFLUENZA VACCINATION AND REPORTING POLICY.

RMKS/1. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS, HEALTH SERVICES, U.S. FLEET FORCES COMMAND, SURGEON'S OFFICE AND U.S. PACIFIC FLEET, SURGEONS OFFICE. TRANSMISSION TO MARINE CORPS AND FLEET ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED.

2. GOALS. REF A INCLUDES A SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION GOAL BY 15 JANUARY 2019, HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE FORCE MEDICAL READINESS BEFORE PEAK INFLUENZA SEASON, THE NAVY'S SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION GOAL WILL REMAIN 90 PERCENT IMMUNIZATION OF ALL ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL BY 15 DECEMBER 2018. THE VACCINE SHOULD BE USED IMMEDIATELY THROUGH AGGRESSIVE IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGNS AND SHOT EXERCISES. THE NAVY WILL ENSURE COMPLETE VACCINE ACCESS FOR NAVY FAMILY (INCLUDES FAMILY MEMBERS, RETIREES, AND OTHER BENEFICIARIES).
3. CHIEF BUMED’S INTENT:
A. ANNUAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION IS RECOMMENDED FOR ALL PERSONS AGED 6
MONTHS AND OLDER AND MANDATORY FOR ALL ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENT
PERSONNEL.
B. MTFS RECEIVING INFLUENZA VACCINE FOR THE 2018-2019 SEASON WILL
PROVIDE ACCESS TO ANY TRICARE BENEFICIARY PRESENTING FOR
IMMUNIZATION REGARDLESS OF LOCAL ENROLLMENT OR HEALTH-STATUS
PRIORITIZATION. ALL RESERVISTS WHO PRESENT VALID MILITARY
IDENTIFICATION SHOULD ALSO RECEIVE THE INFLUENZA VACCINE.
4. INFLUENZA VACCINE PRIORITIES. INFLUENZA VACCINATION PRIORITIES ARE
INTENDED TO SUPPORT MISSION READINESS AND PROTECT VULNERABLE
POPULATIONS. USE THE FIRST AVAILABLE VACCINE TO IMMUNIZE THE
FOLLOWING GROUPS:
A. MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ORDERED TO DEPLOY IN SUPPORT OF AN
OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT OR ASSIGNED TO ANY SHIP.
B. MEDICALLY HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS, HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN
DIRECT PATIENT CARE, AND NAVY CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WITH INFLUENZA
VACCINATION WRITTEN IN THEIR POSITION DESCRIPTION AS A CONDITION OF
EMPLOYMENT.
(1) PER REF B, DOD MTFS MUST DOCUMENT AND RECORD THE VACCINATION OR
EXEMPTION OF CIVILIAN HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL IN DIRECT PATIENT CARE,
AS DEFINED BY REF C.
(2) NAVY MTFS WILL REPORT COMPLIANCE WITH REF B & E, VIA THEIR NAVY
MEDICINE REGION, NO LATER THAN 15 JANUARY 2019. THE DHA INTERIM
PROCEDURES MEMORANDUM 18-005, 2018-2019 SEASONAL INFLUENZA
VACCINATION PROGRAM CAN BE VIEWED AT https://health.mil/Reference
-Center/Policies/2018/08/14/DHA-IPM-18-005-2018-19-Seasonal-Influenza
-Vaccination-Program.
C. BASIC AND ADVANCED TRAINEES, OFFICER TRAINEES, MIDSHIPMEN, AND THE
TRAINING CADRE OF THESE PERSONNEL.
D. ALL OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL.
E. ALL OTHER CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS DOD CIVILIAN AND CONTRACT
EMPLOYEES.
F. ALL OTHER ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES AND DOD CIVILIANS. UNLESS
SIGNIFICANT SHORTAGES EXIST, ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES AND CIVILIANS
WILL NOT BE DENIED THE INFLUENZA VACCINE UPON REQUEST.
5. INFLUENZA VACCINES. THE 2018-2019 DOD INFLUENZA SEASON VACCINE
SUPPLY WILL BE COMPRISED OF INJECTABLE VACCINES. THIS SEASON, THE
INTRANASAL LIVE ATTENUATED INFLUENZA VACCINE WILL BE AVAILABLE
THROUGH THE DIRECT VENDOR DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM. A LIST AND
DESCRIPTION OF DOD CONTRACTED VACCINES MAY BE FOUND AT THE NAVY ON
-LINE VACCINE INFORMATION AND LOGISTICS SYSTEM (VIALS). THE CAC
-ENABLED VIALS WEBSITE IS LOCATED AT HTTPS://GOV
_TRY.NMCLI.MED.NAVY.MIL/INT_CODEO3/VIALS/.
6. VACCINES WILL BE ADMINISTERED PER THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES.
A. PER REF D, COMMANDS WILL ADMINISTER AND FOLLOW ROUTINE
IMMUNIZATION
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION
(CDC) ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES (ACIP) AND THE PRESCRIBING INFORMATION IN THE MANUFACTURERS’ PACKAGE INSERTS.

B. FOR SERVICE MEMBERS IN AN ACTIVE FLYING STATUS (DIFOPS) EXPOSED TO ALTITUDE AS PART OF THEIR CAREER FIELD, INJECTABLE VACCINE IS PREFERRED FOR ITS SHORTER POST-ADMINISTRATION GROUNDING PERIOD (12 VERSUS 72 HOURS) AND Milder SIDE EFFECT PROFILE. PERSONNEL IN AN ACTIVE FLYING STATUS WITH ROUTINE EXPOSURE TO ALTITUDE WILL OBSERVE THE GROUNDING PERIOD GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN SECTION 18.5, NAVY AEROMEDICAL REFERENCE AND WAIVER GUIDE.

C. SERVICE MEMBERS IN AN ACTIVE DIVING STATUS ARE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE INTRANASAL VACCINE; HOWEVER, INJECTABLE VACCINE REMAINS THE PREFERRED VACCINE.

7. COLD CHAIN MANAGEMENT. TEMPERATURE MONITORS WILL BE IN ALL INFLUENZA VACCINE SHIPMENTS. EACH SHIPMENT WILL CONTAIN A HANDLING SHEET WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR RETURNING TEMPERATURE MONITORS. IF SHIPMENT IS NOT ALARMED UPON RECEIPT, VACCINE CAN BE RELEASED FOR IMMEDIATE USE. DISPOSITION IS NOT REQUIRED. IF THE SHIPMENT IS IN AN ALARMED STATUS, THE VACCINE CANNOT BE USED UNTIL THE TEMPERATURE MONITOR IS RECEIVED AND DISPOSITION IS PROVIDED BY DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY TROOP SUPPORT MEDICAL (DLA-TSM). PROMPT RETURN OF ALL TEMPERATURE MONITORS IS CRITICAL, TO INCLUDE NO ALARMED MONITORS.

A. WHEN THE VACCINE HAS BEEN POTENTIALLY COMPROMISED POST-RECEIPT (E.G., REFRIGERATOR MALFUNCTION), CONTACT NAVAL MEDICAL LOGISTICS COMMAND (NMLC) AND YOUR DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY, IMMUNIZATION HEALTHCARE BRANCH SPECIALIST. COMPLETE THE POTENTIALLY COMPROMISED VACCINE EVENTS WORKSHEET LOCATED AT HTTPS://HEALTH.MIL/REFERENCE CENTER/FORMS/2018/05/15/PC-TSM-WS WORKSHEET. RETURN THE VACCINE IMMEDIATELY TO PROPER REFRIGERATION AND MARK DO NOT USE. DLA-TSM WILL PROVIDE DISPOSITION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIVING THE WORKSHEET VIA THE DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY, IMMUNIZATION HEALTHCARE BRANCH.

B. UNITS ARE ADVISED TO KEEP AN APPROPRIATE QUANTITY OF INSULATED SHIPPING BOXES AND GEL PACKS ON HAND FOR LOCAL SHIPPING NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE SEASON. ALL PERSONNEL PERFORMING TRANS-SHIPMENT OF THE VACCINE NEED TO BE TRAINED BY DLA AND MUST CONTACT DLA-TSM PRIOR TO TRANS-SHIPMENT.

C. INFLUENZA VACCINE ORDERS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE COMMANDS WILL BE SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO THE RESERVE COMMANDS AND NOT TO THEIR ALIGNED MTF. RESERVE COMMANDS MUST ADHERE TO COLD CHAIN REQUIREMENTS.

8. VACCINE DISTRIBUTION. THE SINGLE SOURCE OF INFLUENZA VACCINE IS THE ESTABLISHED DOD CENTRALIZED DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, COORDINATED AND CONTROLLED BY NMLC. VIALS IS THE REQUISITION SYSTEM TOOL FOR SEASONAL AND EMERGING INFLUENZA VACCINES. VIALS SIMPLIFIES VACCINE REQUISITIONS AND ENABLES COMMANDS TO TRACK VACCINE ORDERS ELECTRONICALLY FROM REQUISITION TO RECEIPT. COORDINATE ORDERS FOR
ADDITIONAL VACCINE THROUGH VIALS. ALL SUBSEQUENT REQUISITIONS SUBMITTED WILL BE REVIEWED BY NMLC AND DLA-TSM. SUBSTITUTIONS MAY BE MADE TO ENSURE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF INFLUENZA VACCINE WHEN AND WHERE NEEDED. CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN ACTIVITY SUPPLY AND LOGISTICS OFFICERS WITH NMLC AND DLA-TSM IS REQUIRED.

9. INFLUENZA VACCINE CONSIDERATIONS. INJECTABLE CONSIDERATIONS: ADMINISTERING FACILITIES SHOULD ACCOUNT FOR AND ORDER ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS SUCH AS SYRINGES AND SYRINGE NEEDLES. SINCE INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINES SHIP FROM THE DLA DEPOT TO ORDERING FACILITIES RATHER THAN DIRECTLY TO THE FACILITIES, PLEASE ACCOUNT FOR INCREASED SHIPPING TIME ASSOCIATED WITH INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINATION PRODUCTS.

10. IMMUNIZATION DOCUMENTATION:
A. SENIOR LEADERSHIP MAINTAINS A HIGH INTEREST IN THE PROGRESS OF THE INFLUENZA VACCINE CAMPAIGN. MEDICAL READINESS REPORTING SYSTEM (MRRS) WILL BE USED TO ENTER VACCINATION STATUS AND MONITOR COMPLIANCE FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL.
B. PER REF D, DOCUMENTATION SHOULD INCLUDE THE DATE THE VACCINE WAS ADMINISTERED, VACCINE NAME OR CODE, MANUFACTURER, LOT NUMBER, DOSE, VACCINE ADMINISTRATION ROUTE, AND ANATOMIC SITE.
C. THE CODES (CVX) TO DOCUMENT VACCINE ADMINISTRATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE VIALS WEBSITE AT HTTPS://GOV ONLY.NMLC.MED.NAVY.MIL/INT_CODE03/VIALS/. CVX CODES 15, 16, 111, AND 153 SHOULD NOT BE USED TO DOCUMENT VACCINE ADMINISTRATION IN THE 2018-2019 INFLUENZA SEASON. CVX CODE 88 (INFLUENZA UNSPECIFIED) SHOULD BE USED FOR HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION ONLY WHEN VACCINE SPECIFICS ARE NOT KNOWN.

11. ADDITIONAL FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION APPROVED INFLUENZA VACCINES (E.G., HIGH DOSE, INTRADERMAL, AND INTRANASAL) ARE NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DOD CENTRAL PURCHASING CONTRACTS OR PRIME VENDOR PROGRAM. THESE VACCINES MAY BE PURCHASED VIA DIRECT VENDOR BUYS AND COMMANDS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS INVOLVED IF THESE VACCINES ARE CHOSEN. INTRANASAL VACCINE WILL COUNT TOWARD FULFILLING MEDICAL READINESS REQUIREMENTS.


13. TRICARE VACCINE PROGRAM. BENEFICIARIES MAY RECEIVE INFLUENZA VACCINES FOR ZERO COPAYMENT AT PARTICIPATING RETAIL NETWORK PHARMACIES. SERVICE MEMBERS WHO RECEIVE INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS FROM RETAIL NETWORK PHARMACIES WILL PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION OF IMMUNIZATION NO LATER THAN THE NEXT DUTY OR DRILL DAY FOLLOWING VACCINATION. THIS INFLUENZA SEASON, INTRANASAL VACCINES WILL COUNT TOWARD FULFILLING SERVICE MEMBERS INDIVIDUAL MEDICAL READINESS REQUIREMENTS AND WILL SATISFY THE REQUIREMENT FOR THOSE WHOSE IMMUNIZATION IS MANDATORY.

14. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS SURVEILLANCE OF ACTIVE DUTY AND CIVILIAN POPULATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED PER REF E.

15. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
A. NMLC INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST, MS. BARBRA ROSENTHAL, COMM: 301-619-8054, DSN: 343-8268. E-MAIL: USN.DETRICK.NAVMEDLOGCOMFTDMD.LIST.VIALHELP(AT)MAIL.MIL

B. DLA-TSM, COLD CHAIN AND VACCINE PROGRAM MANAGER, MS. DANA DALLAS COMM: 215-737-5537; DSN: 444-5537, E-MAIL: DANA.DALLAS(AT)DLA.MIL.

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