



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT/EASTERN RECRUITING REGION
PO BOX 19001
PARRIS ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA 29905-9001

DepO 6200.9

G-1

22 JAN 2001

DEPOT ORDER 6200.9

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: ADMINISTRATION OF PERSONNEL TESTING POSITIVE FOR THE HUMAN
IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) ANTIBODY

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5300.30
(b) SECNAVINST 1900.4A
(c) SECNAVINST 1850.4B
(d) SECNAVINST 1920.6A
(e) DODDIR 6485.1
(f) NEHC TM 6100.99-9

1. Purpose. To provide specific guidance concerning those members of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, to include recruits, who may be reported as testing positive for the HIV antibody associated with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

2. Background. Military personnel are tested per reference (a), (b), (c) and (f) for the presence of HIV antibodies to maintain the health of the Armed Forces. Accessions for active duty (recruits) are also tested per reference (a) for the presence of HIV antibodies.

3. Information

a. The Naval Hospital Preventive Medicine department serves as the area HIV program manager and can assist commanding officers with additional program information, questions, and with initial service member notification.

b. The HIV test results for permanent personnel will be received by a sealed envelope marked "For the Commanding Officer's Eyes Only" from the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery with instructions. These instructions will include proper referral regarding further medical services and will outline recommended

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notification procedures to include suggested "do's and don'ts". Return receipt instructions are also included.

c. HIV test results for recruits will be delivered to the battalion commanding officer by sealed envelope marked "For the Commanding Officer's Eyes Only" from the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

4. Recruit Policy. Recruits are initially screened for the presence of HIV antibodies during their Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) physical exam. Recruits reporting to Parris Island with HIV test results more than six months old are re-tested on the first day of processing at the Branch Medical Clinic (BMC). It normally takes 2-3 weeks for the results of this screening to be returned from the testing laboratory.

a. Recruits who test positive will be so informed by their Battalion Commander per paragraph 3.

b. After being informed by the Battalion Commander, a recruit who tests positive for the HIV antibody will be rapidly processed for an entry level separation by reason of erroneous enlistment, per reference (b). Individuals so confirmed must be separated because:

(1) The condition existed prior to enlistment.

(2) The individual may suffer a potentially life threatening reaction to some live-virus immunization.

(3) The individual is not able to participate in battlefield blood donor activities or other military blood donation programs.

(4) There presently is no way to identify those who will progress to clinical disease.

c. Individuals will be referred to the appropriate resources for medical, psychological, and spiritual support and counseling, as may be required.

5. Permanent Personnel Policy

a. Active duty members will be screened for HIV antibodies through the BMC as directed by reference (a).

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b. Active duty members who are identified as HIV antibody positive will be informed of test results by their commanding officer. The individual will then be referred to a medical officer for counseling and a Chaplain if desired.

c. Upon notification of positive HIV antibody status, the active duty member will be provided initial preventive medicine counseling by a designated medical officer at the Naval Hospital, Beaufort. The counseling will also be provided for others at risk of HIV infection, such as prior sexual contacts (who are military health care beneficiaries).

d. The personnel who test HIV antibody positive will be sent for 10-14 days to a medical treatment facility, as directed by BUMED, for additional counseling and a complete medical evaluation to determine the status of their infection.

e. Military personnel who show no evidence of clinical illness or any signs or symptoms related to HIV antibody infection will be retained in the service unless some other reason for separation exists. Personnel who are retained under this policy shall be assigned within the United States to a unit not normally programmed for deployment.

f. Military personnel who have tested positive for the HIV antibody and exhibit conditions, which render them unfit for continued service will be processed through the disability retirement system per reference (a) and (e).

g. HIV antibody positive personnel retained on active duty who do not comply with directives given during lawfully ordered preventive medicine procedures are subject to administrative and disciplinary actions including separation for cause, per reference (a), (d) and (e).

h. Military personnel who are HIV antibody positive and retained on active duty may request voluntary separation per reference (a).

6. Action

a. AC/S, Religious Ministry. If requested by a commanding officer, provide a chaplain to assist HIV positive personnel in case of the non-availability of a battalion chaplain. The chaplain will provide ongoing pastoral counseling and care as needed.

b. Staff Judge Advocate. Provide legal guidance as required.

c. Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Beaufort. Serve as the primary medical coordinator. Provide the individual with information on the precise nature of the test, the significance of results, and what medical procedures will take place. Upon notification that an individual is HIV positive, take preventive medical action including counseling of the individual and others at risk of infection such as sexual contacts (who are military health care beneficiaries). Provide, upon request, professional socio-medical counseling to relatives of the member. Notify the Naval Dental Clinic, Parris Island, of results of HIV testing for entry in the service member's dental records.

d. Commanding Officers


(1) Notify the individual of the positive test results as expeditiously as possible to facilitate further medical evaluations. A notification time and location should be selected that offers privacy and confidentiality. HIV test results must be treated with the highest degree of confidentiality.

(2) Ensure that opportunity exists for the individual to consult with a chaplain or medical representative at the time of notification or at a later date. Requests in this regard must be treated in a timely and confidential manner.

(3) Ascertain from the individual what assistance will be required during the period that the individual is being medically evaluated (10-14 days). Arrangements should be made for immediate consultation with a medical officer and chaplain to advise and assist spouses and/or the dependents.

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(4) Complete receipt/notification requirements on the letter from the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Washington, DC, and return letter to that organization as directed.



S. W. WAGNER
Chief of Staff

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