

MEMORANDUM FOR UNITS FM/SG/DP

4 June 1999

NAFs/FM/SG/DP

HQ USAF/RECB/REM/REP

FROM: HQ AFRC/FMA/SGS/DP
155 2nd St
Robins AFB GA 31098-1635

SUBJECT: Duty Status for Anthrax Vaccination (PIM 99-06-01)

PLEASE FORWARD THIS MESSAGE TO SG & DP

1. Anthrax is a mortal enemy that our airmen must be prepared to confront and conquer. Threat from biological warfare agents is of great concern to the Department of Defense and to our nation. The former director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) referred to anthrax as "the single most dangerous threat to our national security in the foreseeable future." We must immunize against anthrax or we will suffer unconscionable combat losses and failed missions. Immunization is a commander's program to ensure the health and safety of our troops.

2. This threat exists around the world in areas our Expeditionary Forces deploy to every day. As our member's deploy to certain locations, they are required to receive the anthrax vaccination. For those units/personnel that are anticipated to deploy and will require this vaccination, proper lead-time must be obtained in order for at least the first three shots to be given prior to the deployment (30 day minimum).

3. Reservists must be in duty status to either give or receive the anthrax immunization. The following types of status/duties are available to commander's to support this effort and are listed in recommended order.

a. Unit Training Assembly (UTA): Unit commanders may reschedule UTAs for an entire unit, an individual or groups of individuals if training is necessary - and the reserve member may take the shot during this IDT period NOTE: Training performed during a rescheduled UTA must benefit individual training, unit training, and/or unit readiness. Rescheduling letters must be prepared and issued prior to the date of the UTA.

b. Annual Tour (AT): AT tours may be scheduled involuntarily to support mission needs to include taking the Anthrax shot. In such cases, the member must be given at least 60 days advance notification.

c. Special Tours of ADS: Special Tour or "man-days" are to be used to maintain or increase a member's mobilization readiness in support of Reserve needs and the reserve member is authorized to and may take the anthrax shot during this active duty period.

d. Points Only: Points only is a legal military status which allows the reserve member to receive the serum while on this IDT status. The period of service for this IDT is to be documented on AF Form 40A. This period is considered an additional inactive duty

period and does not count towards UTA requirements. (DODI 1215.19, para 4.4.2.)

4. We must comply with the anthrax immunization reporting requirements and inoculation schedule of initial, two and four weeks, six, twelve and eighteen months. Reservists are not to be placed on military status solely for the purpose of receiving medical/dental care, therefore, do not reschedule UTAs or place reservists on orders solely for the purpose of receiving the anthrax vaccination. Rescheduling UTAs or placing reservists on orders to support this program is permissible, as long as members have valid assigned duties for the remainder of their duty period after they have received the inoculation.

5. All current funding requirements are to be covered with your local RPA/O&M funds. There are no additional funds at this HQs for this purpose. Be prepared to report the number of UTAs/annual tour days rescheduled to support this program. There are some additional RPA funds to support anthrax vaccinations programmed for FYs 01 through 05 with the bulk of the funding programmed for FY 03. Therefore, prudent use of available dollars must be exercised.

6. This is a joint HQ AFRC/FMAP/DPMB/SGS message. POC's are Laura Felcan, HQ AFRC/FMAPP, DSN 497-1409, Lt Col Martinez-Perez, HQ AFRC/SGPB, DSN 497-0600, and MSgt Mary Olson, HQ AFRC/DPMB, DSN 497-0388.

//Signed//
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