



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: DoD Policy on Medical Care for Enemy Persons Under US. Control
Detained in Conjunction with Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

REFERENCES: (a) DoD Directive 5136.1, "Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health
Affairs (ASD(HA)), May 27, 1994

(b) DoD Directive 2310.1, "DoD Program for Enemy Prisoners of
War (EPOW) and Other Detainees," August 18, 1994

(c) Third Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners
of War of August 12, 1949

(d) AR 190-8, OPNAVINST 3461.6, AFJI 31-304, MCO 3461.1,
"Enemy Prisoners of War, Retained Personnel, Civilian Internees
and Other Detainees," 1 October 1997

This policy memorandum, issued under the authority of reference (a), provides guidance, consistent with references (b) through (d), for medical care for enemy detainees under U.S. control.

To the extent appropriate and consistent with military necessity, medical care shall be provided consistent with reference (d). Detainees under U.S. control suffering from a serious disease, or whose condition necessitates special treatment, surgery, hospital care, or rehabilitation shall be provided, to the extent feasible, the medical attention required by their state of health. All practicable efforts shall be made to provide such care at the location where such persons are detained. The health of each detainee under U.S. control shall be monitored and medical records shall be maintained as provided in reference (d).

In any case in which there is uncertainty about the need, scope, or duration of medical care for a detainee under U.S. control, medical personnel shall be guided by their professional judgments and standards similar to those that would be used to evaluate medical issues for U.S. personnel, consistent with security, public health management,

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and other mission requirements. Specific requests for guidance, that cannot be resolved at a lower level, will be forwarded through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to this office for resolution.

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