SUBJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDATORY ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (AVIP)

1. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS (ASD (HA)) HAS APPROVED THE USAF PLAN FOR RESUMING MANDATORY ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS AND GIVEN PERMISSION FOR DISTRIBUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN (REF D).

1.1. THE USAF PLAN (REF C) CONTAINS PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF THE AVIP IN THE AIR FORCE AND IS AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY FROM HTTPS://WWW.A3A5.HQ.AF.MIL/A3S/A3SC/CCBRN_RESOURCE/BIOLOGICAL/ANTHRAX/INDEX.ASP.

1.2. UPON RECEIPT OF THIS MESSAGE, MAJCOMS WILL DIRECT THEIR INSTALLATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE AVIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN REFs A, B, AND C.

1.3. CONSISTENT WITH THE AVIP EXECUTIVE AGENT GOAL OF HAVING 90 PERCENT OF THE MANDATORY POPULATION IMMUNIZED BY 30 APR 07, INSTALLATION COMMANDERS SHOULD PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS IN TIME TO ENABLE A RESUMPTION OF MANDATORY ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS WITHIN FOUR WEEKS OF MAJCOM DIRECTION TO IMPLEMENT THE AVIP. COMMANDERS OF AFRC OR ANG UNITS UNABLE TO MEET THE FOUR-WEEK IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE DUE TO DRILL AND TRAINING SCHEDULES MUST ACCOMPLISH THE REQUIRED ACTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CONCURRENT WITH THIS TIMING, THE AIR FORCE COMPLETE IMMUNIZATION TRACKING APPLICATION (AFCTA) WILL BE CONFIGURED TO BEGIN TRACKING THE STATUS OF MANDATORY ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS.

2. PER REF A, THE DEPSECDEF HAS DIRECTED RESUMPTION OF MANDATORY ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION FOR CERTAIN DESIGNATED MILITARY PERSONNEL, EMERGENCY-ESSENTIAL (E-E) AND COMPARABLE DOD AND CERTAIN MISSION-ESSENTIAL (M-E) CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL PERFORMING ESSENTIAL SERVICES.

THE NEW AVIP POLICY ALSO ALLOWS FOR CERTAIN PERSONNEL, NOT SUBJECT TO MANDATORY VACCINATION, TO VOLUNTARILY RECEIVE THE ANTHRAX VACCINE.

3. PER REFs B AND C, RESUME MANDATORY ANTHRAX VACCINATION FOR THE FOLLOWING:
   3.1. UNIFORMED PERSONNEL SERVING IN THE U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND (USCENTCOM) AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OR THE KOREAN PENINSULA FOR 15 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS.
   3.2. UNIFORMED DOD PERSONNEL DESIGNATED AS EARLY DEPLOYERS (C-DAY TO C+20) TO THE KOREAN PENINSULA FOR 15 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS.
   3.3. EMERGENCY-ESSENTIAL (E-E) AND EQUIVALENT DOD MILITARY EMPLOYEES.
ASSIGNED FOR 15 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO THE USCENTCOM AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OR TO THE KOREAN PenINsULA.

3.4. DOD CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL CARRYING OUT MISSION-ESSENTIAL (M-E) SERVICES AND ASSIGNED FOR 15 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO THE USCENTCOM AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OR KOREA.

3.5. MEMBERS OF ALL SPECIAL GROUPS COVERED BY PREVIOUSLY APPROVED EXCEPTIONS TO POLICY.

3.6. OTHER PERSONNEL DESIGNATED BY THE ASD (HA), UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, THE SECRETARY OF A MILITARY DEPARTMENT OR THE COMMANDANT OF THE COAST GUARD, BASED ON CRITICAL MISSION ASSIGNMENTS.

4. PER REFS B AND C, THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR VOLUNTARY VACCINATIONS (SUBJECT TO MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS) BASED ON CURRENT LOCATION OR STATUS:

4.1. U.S. GOVERNMENT CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES AND U.S. CITIZEN CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL OTHER THAN THOSE REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPHS 3.3 AND 3.4 ASSIGNED FOR 15 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO THE USCENTCOM AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OR KOREA.

4.2. ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS, 18-65 YEARS OF AGE, ACCOMPANYING DOD MILITARY AND U.S. CITIZEN PERSONNEL FOR 15 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO THE USCENTCOM AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OR KOREA.

4.3. U.S. CITIZEN ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS, 18-65 YEARS OF AGE, ACCOMPANYING U.S. CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL FOR 15 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO THE USCENTCOM AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OR KOREA.

4.4. VACCINE MANUFACTURING AND RESEARCH PERSONNEL AND OTHERS, AS DESIGNATED BY THE ASD (HA).

5. PER REFS B AND C, THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS, IF NOT SUBJECT TO MANDATORY VACCINATION, WILL BE OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE THEIR VACCINATION SERIES AND RECEIVE ANNUAL BOOSTERS ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS (SUBJECT TO MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS):

5.1. MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES ON ACTIVE DUTY OR IN THE SELECTED RESERVE, REGARDLESS OF CURRENT DUTY ASSIGNMENT, IF THEY PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE DOSE OF ANTHRAX VACCINE SINCE 1998 AND IF THEY ARE NOT CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO MANDATORY VACCINATION.

5.2. U.S. GOVERNMENT CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF DOD, REGARDLESS OF CURRENT DUTY ASSIGNMENT, IF THEY PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE DOSE OF ANTHRAX VACCINE SINCE 1998 AND IF THEY ARE NOT CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO MANDATORY VACCINATION.

6. TO FACILITATE RESUMPTION OF THE MANDATORY AVIP, INSTALLATION COMMANDERS WILL:

6.1. ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE AVIP BY MAINTAINING OVERSIGHT AND OWNERSHIP OF THE INSTALLATION’S AVIP IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM.

6.2. ENSURE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INSTALLATION AVIP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN CONSISTENT WITH REFS B AND C.

6.3. DESIGNATE, IN WRITING, A SENIOR LINE OFFICER AS THE INSTALLATION AVIP TEAM CHAIRPERSON TO OVERSEE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE INSTALLATION AVIP.

6.4. DIRECT THE MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITY (MTF) COMMANDER TO DESIGNATE, IN WRITING, A MEDICAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE (OIC) TO COORDINATE THE MEDICAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLINICAL FUNCTIONS OF THE AVIP.

6.5. ENSURE PERSONNEL RECEIVE EDUCATION ON THE AVIP PRIOR TO RECEIVING OR ADMINISTERING ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS.


6.5.2. UNIT COMMANDERS (UNLESS EXEMPTED BELOW) ARE REQUIRED TO SUPPLEMENT THE AVIP TRI-FOLD BROCHURE WITH A BRIEFING TO UNIT PERSONNEL USNG STANDARD BRIEFING PAGE 2
6.5.2.1. Given drill and training schedules, Commanders of AFRC and ANG units may not be able to complete this briefiing within the four week period. In this case, the Commanders must complete this briefiing as soon as possible.

6.5.2.2. With consideration given to on-going combat operations and high opstempo, Commanders in the USCENTCOM area of responsibility are not required to conduct a command briefiing, but are strongly encouraged to do so.

6.6. Ensure implementation actions are accomplished in time to enable the resumption of mandatory anthrax vaccinations within four weeks of Major Command direction to implement the AVIP.

7. A complete archive of AF guidance on the AVIP, including this message and all references, is available at: HTTPS://WWW.A3A5.HQ.AF.MIL/A3S/A3SC/CBRAIN_RESOURCE/BILOGICAL/ANTHRAX/INDEX.ASP.

8. HQ USAF POC for this message is LT COL TODD SHULL (AF/A3SC), 703-614-0410 (DSN 224), or email: TODD.SHULL@PENTAGON.AF.MIL.