



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1200 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

18 June 2012

HEALTH AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (INSTALLATIONS
AND ENERGY)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
COMMANDER, JOINT TASK FORCE NATIONAL CAPITAL
REGION - MEDICAL

SUBJECT: Clarification of the Requirement for Continuation of Semi-Annual Reporting of
Results of Embedded Fragment Analyses

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs' memorandum, "Operation IRAQI FREEDOM/Operation NEW DAWN Depleted Uranium Bioassay Results – 16th Semi-Annual Report and Policy on Future Data Submissions," dated January 23, 2012, (attached) announced the discontinuation of routine semi-annual reporting of depleted uranium biomonitoring results. This memorandum did not alter the policies on analysis and reporting of embedded metal fragments, which continues. This memorandum provides additional guidance on the continued reporting of the analytical results of embedded fragments surgically removed from Service members.

The U.S. Army Public Health Command, the Joint Pathology Center, and the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine should continue to provide semi-annual reports of analytic results for the metal elements identified in fragments removed from Operation IRAQI FREEDOM/ Operation NEW DAWN or Operation ENDURING FREEDOM Service members. Please submit reports of analyses performed during the period of October 1, 2011–March 31, 2012, to the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection and Readiness (DASD(FHP&R)) by July 3, 2012. All subsequent reports will be due the last work day of each November and May, 2 months following the end of the corresponding 6-month reporting period.

Please refer any questions about this memorandum and submit metal fragment analytic results to Dr. R. Craig Postlewaite, Program Director, Force Readiness and Health Assurance, in the Office of the DASD(FHP&R). Dr. Postlewaite may be reached at (703) 578-8513, or Craig.Postlewaite@tma.osd.mil.

Additional information and clinical guidance are available on the Department of Defense Deployment Health Clinical Center Web site, www.pdhealth.mil.

Jonathan Woodson, M.D.

Attachment:
As stated

cc:

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs)
Surgeon General of the Army
Surgeon General of the Navy
Surgeon General of the Air Force
Director, Joint Staff
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health)
Director, Health and Safety, United States Coast Guard
Director, Department of Defense Deployment Health Clinical Center
Under Secretary for Health, Department of Veterans Affairs
Baltimore VA Medical Center (Dr. Melissa McDiarmid)
Commander, United States Army Public Health Command
Commander, United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
Interim Director, Joint Pathology Center