

RESERVE  
AFFAIRSTHE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF  
DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

SEP 14 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD  
CHIEF, ARMY RESERVE  
DIRECTOR, NAVAL RESERVE  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR MANPOWER & RESERVE AFFAIRS,  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
DIRECTOR, AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
CHIEF, AIR FORCE RESERVE  
DIRECTOR, RESERVE AND TRAINING,  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

SUBJECT: Treatment of Reserve Component (RC) Members at Military Medical Treatment Facilities (MTF) for Health Care Related to an Immunization.

Section 1074a of Title 10, United States Code authorizes RC members medical care appropriate for the treatment of an injury, illness or disease incurred or aggravated while performing active duty for less than 30 days, or inactive duty training. On July 20, 1999, the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) issued the attached guidance to the Service Secretaries that emphasizes the responsibility of MTF commanders to ensure that they provide care for RC members who seek care for a vaccination-related health problem. This care includes medical evaluation and treatment, as appropriate.

It is the responsibility of unit commanders to ensure their members are immunized and ready for deployment. It is also necessary for Reserve component commanders to advise their members that they may seek medical care if they have an adverse reaction to any immunization. When such care is sought, a line of duty determination (LOD) is not required.

Some RC members may seek medical care from their private physicians while others may seek medical care at a local MTF. This will vary by individual and circumstances. Regardless of the source of the care, each Reserve component should ensure that procedures are in place that facilitate prompt evaluation and treatment of its members in the event of an adverse reaction, which includes care at an MTF as provided for in the ASD(HA) memorandum. Members must be advised of these procedures and provided information related to pay status or compensation issues.

Our Reserve component members trust that they will be cared for if injured in the line of duty. As leaders, we have a duty to ensure that this trust is justified. Therefore, please take the appropriate action to inform the members of your Reserve component regarding adverse immunization reactions and the appropriate procedures in the event of such a reaction.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Charles L. Cragin". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, flowing letters.

Charles L. Cragin  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

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