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THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

28 June 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR: SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Military Unique Training in DoD-Sponsored Graduate Medical Education Programs

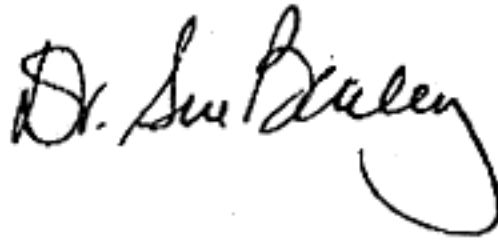
Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs conducted for military trainees in DoD facilities offer an opportunity to include military unique aspects that will prepare physicians for the rigorous demands of practice in a wartime or contingency environment. It is essential that the military medical services avail themselves of this opportunity in a comprehensive yet efficient manner. I am therefore establishing these policies relative to DoD-sponsored GME programs:

At the PGY 1, or entry level, each program shall incorporate a standardized curriculum that includes a core of these topics essential to every physician who will practice medicine in the military. This curriculum will be augmented by an orientation to field medicine such as the Combat Casualty Care Course (C4) or equivalent experience. The curriculum should be designed to complement, not replace, military training obtained through other means and only those elements that are both necessary and appropriate to the GME education program should be included. Beyond the PGY-1 year, each program shall include a military unique curriculum that is standardized and specialty specific. For subspecialty training the curriculum may be directed toward the projected utilization of the trainee, usually in their core specialty. An appropriate exposure to practice of the specialty in an austere or contingent environment will be an essential element of each program..

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine shall coordinate efforts of the Services in developing the necessary curricula and shall establish a centralized repository of information on educational materials and courses to support the implementation of the curricula.

Military unique training in GME programs shall be documented on an annual basis and reported to the ASD(HA) by the Services by September 30 of the completed training year. Each program review shall confirm that a military unique curriculum is in place and that it is being utilized. It shall also confirm that appropriate opportunities to experience specialty practice in constrained environments exist and are being utilized.

My point of contact for this policy is COL John Powers at (703) 681-1703, ext. 5215.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr. Sue Bailey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "y" at the end.

Dr. Sue Bailey

HA Policy 99-00020

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Last update: 7/12/1999