



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

OCT 13 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (M&RA)
PRESIDENT, UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF
THE HEALTH SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Training for Health Care Providers in Detainee Operations

References: (a) DoD Directive 5136. 1, "Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs," May 27, 1994
(b) Health Affairs Policy Memorandum 05-006, "Medical Program Principles and Procedures for the Protection and Treatment of Detainees in the Custody of the Armed Forces of the United States," June 3, 2005

This memorandum is issued under the authority of reference (a). Military medical personnel have historically been responsible for the health care of enemy prisoners of war, detainees, and civilian internees. The policy governing enemy prisoners of war, detainees and civilian internees and the role of health care providers in detainee operations is articulated in multiple sources from broad Department of Defense (DoD) policy through Service regulations to field manuals providing guidance to individual soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines. However, because of the new types of threats, enemies and warfare that the United States currently faces, additional policy (reference (b)) has been issued to consolidate and clarify existing guidance. Health Affairs Policy Memorandum 05-006 directs training for health care personnel involved in the treatment of detainees on applicable policies and procedures regarding the care and treatment of detainees.

The intent of this policy is that all personnel who may provide health care to detainees be familiar with DoD policy regarding detainee operations and have the skills and knowledge to implement that DoD policy. It is also the intent of this policy that all medical personnel who may observe or examine detainees and detainee operations be able to recognize possible abuse of detainees and take appropriate steps to report it, even if they are not themselves rendering care to the detainees.

It is the policy of the Department of Defense Military Health System that:

1. The Surgeon General of the Army will be responsible for developing and maintaining a system for providing the training specified in this policy for all military

HA POLICY: 05-019

healthcare personnel who may be deployed in support of military operations and whose duties are likely to involve support of detainee operations or other contact with detainees.

2. The Surgeons General of the Military Departments will direct training for their personnel, in accordance with this policy, and certify and document that such training has been completed at the times and intervals directed by this policy.

3. The content of the training will be developed and periodically reviewed by the Surgeon General of the Army in consultation with Surgeons General of the Navy and Air Force, representatives of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and other subject matter experts as appropriate.

4. For personnel described in paragraph 1, the training will be provided to all privileged medical providers, direct patient caregivers, and to additional personnel of the medical departments as determined necessary by the Surgeon General concerned to implement the intent of this policy.

5. The basic training course will be of sufficient length to provide skills and information necessary to implement the intent of this policy. The basic training course will be provided to all privileged medical providers, direct patient caregivers, and other personnel described in paragraph 1 as soon as practicable after the date of this policy memorandum, with priority going to personnel already deployed, then personnel preparing for deployment. The basic training course, or its equivalent, will be repeated prior to deployment by all required personnel who have not had the training within a year prior to the date of deployment.

6. Intensified training will be developed by the Army Surgeon General for individuals or units who are expected to be deployed in direct support of detainee operations. This intensified training will be given to units and individuals on a schedule to be determined by the Surgeons General.

This memorandum is effective immediately.



William Winkenwerder, Jr., MD

cc:
Surgeon General, Army
Surgeon General, Navy
Surgeon General, Air Force
Joint Staff Surgeon