

# Department of Defense (DoD) Military Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) Guide

(Rev. 27Oct2020)

## Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Blood Testing of DoD Firefighters in accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2020 (NDAA FY20), Section 707 (Public Law 116-92)

**WHO:** DoD “Firefighter” means someone whose primary job or military occupational specialty is being a firefighter. Only DoD Firefighters receiving annual DoD Firefighter Occupational Health Screening Examinations are eligible.

**WHAT:** Offer DoD Firefighters the opportunity to undergo a PFAS blood test.

**WHEN:** PFAS blood testing is offered to DoD firefighters only during their annual DoD Firefighter Occupational Health Screening Examination; it is not offered during pre-placement medical examinations or as a stand-alone test at any other time.

**WHERE:** Samples for PFAS blood testing will be collected at the same time and location as other laboratory samples collected for the annual DoD Firefighter Occupational Health Screening Examination, unless otherwise established.

### HOW:

- 1.) DoD Firefighter will be provided a hard copy of the Firefighter PFAS Fact Sheet during each annual DoD Firefighter Occupational Health Screening Examination.
- 2.) DoD Firefighter will be provided the opportunity to read the DoD Firefighter PFAS Fact Sheet and ask questions regarding the PFAS blood test—to be addressed by an Occupational Health Nurse or provider prior to the DoD Firefighter being offered PFAS blood testing and making their decision whether to accept or decline PFAS blood testing.
- 3.) Once the DoD Firefighter has been informed of and their questions addressed regarding PFAS blood testing, the offer of PFAS blood test will be made—the DoD Firefighter may accept or decline.
  - a. If **accepted**, the servicing clinic will:
    - i. Verify DoD Firefighter’s preferred mailing address and maintain in the employee medical folder and in the electronic health record (EHR).
    - ii. Order the PFAS blood test:
      1. Composite Health Care System (CHCS) and Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application (AHLTA):
        - a. Primary Synonym: **Perfluoroakyl Substances, S/P**
        - b. Ancillary Synonyms: **PFAS** (clinics) and **LC 830848** (lab)  
\*\*\* *For problems, please contact the local MTF laboratory*
      2. Military Health System Genesis (MHSG):
        - a. Primary Synonym: **Perfluoroakyl Substances, S/P**
        - b. Ancillary Synonyms: **PFAS** (clinics) and **LC830848** (lab)  
\*\*\* *For problems, please submit a DHA GSC Ticket*
  - b. If **declined**, the DoD Firefighter will be requested to complete a declination memorandum *utilizing the DoD-approved memorandum for record* including printing or typing their full name, signing (digital signature is acceptable), and entering the current date. If the DoD Firefighter refuses to complete the declination memorandum, annotate with their name, the date, “Refused to Sign”, and the printed name and signature of a clinic staff member.
    - i. The completed declination memorandum must be scanned or otherwise entered into the EHR and associated with the provider encounter. The original hard copy must be

retained in the individual's paper employee medical folder, if such folders are maintained, or in the clinic medical records office.

- ii. The clinic performing the annual DoD Firefighter Occupational Health Screening Examination must maintain a record of the quantity of declination memoranda, for each month, for reporting to higher headquarters at least annually.
- 4.) MTF Laboratory: The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Code **83921** is built into the DoD Standard Test File the PFAS blood tests as described in 3.a.ii. above.
- 5.) At the end of the provider encounter, the provider will document the following in the EHR:
- a. Diagnosis Codes (*the following are the minimum, others may be added as clinically and administratively appropriate*):
    - i. International Classification of Diseases, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes:
      1. **DOD0215** (Exam, formal occupational health program (including HCP), periodic for continued surveillance for occupational workplace exposure), OR **DOD0216** (Exam, formal occupational health program (including HCP), due to termination of occupational workplace exposure).
      2. **Z57.5** (Occupational exposure to toxic agents in other industries)
    - ii. MHS Genesis: If ICD-10-CM Code **Z57.5** is not available, use SNOMED CT Code: **3518097016** (Exposure to toxic agent).
  - b. In the Assessment section of the encounter, document (*recommend the same be documented on examination paperwork if hard copy is created and maintained or entered into the EHR*):  
“DoD Firefighter was offered PFAS Blood Testing IAW NDAA FY2020, Section 707 – ACCEPTED/DECLINED.” [*annotate ONLY the DoD Firefighter's choice*]
  - c. Verification that the DoD Firefighter (*recommend the same be documented on examination paperwork if hard copy is created and maintained or entered into the EHR*):
    - i. Received and reviewed DoD Firefighter PFAS Fact Sheet, and any questions were addressed.
    - ii. Informed of the right to decline the PFAS blood test.
    - iii. Informed that PFAS blood test is only available during the annual DoD Firefighter Occupational Health Screening Examination.
    - iv. Informed that the results of the PFAS blood test, if offer was accepted, will be provided to the DoD Firefighter when the results are available.
    - v. Informed that any follow-on health care or evaluations based on the results of the PFAS blood test must be sought from a private medical provider at the expense of the DoD Firefighter.
- 6.) When the PFAS blood test results, for a DoD Firefighter who accepted the offer to be tested, are available to the examining clinic, a copy of the results report and a copy of the DoD-approved PFAS Blood Test Results Memorandum [*describing results reported in nanograms per milliliter (ng/mL) not micrograms per liter (µg/L)*] will be provided to the DoD Firefighter. If U.S. mail is used, the results will be sent by a means with tracking included, to the address verified during the annual DoD Firefighter Occupational Health Screening Examination. Annotation will be made in the DoD Firefighter's occupational health record that the PFAS blood test results were provided to the DoD Firefighter.

\*\*\* Please find DoD policy for PFAS blood testing of DoD Firefighters and above referenced DoD-approved documents at: <https://www.health.mil/PFAS> under the “Additional Resources” section.