DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY
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MEMORANDUM FOR SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE
JOINT STAFF SURGEON
COAST GUARD DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND WORK LIFE

SUBJECT: Addition of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis against Rabies to the 2012 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions

The Armed Forces Health Surveillance Branch (AFHSB), Public Health Division, Defense Health Agency (DHA) and a working group consisting of representatives from the Air Force, Army, and Navy developed a Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) against Rabies case definition that will now be a reportable medical event which is in addition to the 2012 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions currently in use. The Public Health Collaboration and Coordination Working Group (CCWG) concurred with the new PEP guideline and case definition on 13 December 2016.

This addition of PEP against Rabies case definition to the 2012 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions is the DHA's response to the Joint DOTmLPF-P Change Recommendation (DCR) for Feral Animal Risk Mitigation (FARM) dated 6 June 2014 and developed by the Health Readiness Work Group. This DCR for FARM tasked the DHA/PHD/ AFHSB to "Add bite reports and/or potential rabies exposures requiring PEP to the list of reportable medical events (RMEs)" no later than 1 March 2017.

As a result, all Medical Treatment Facilities and other reporting units should report PEP for Rabies using the new case definition posted at http://www.health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Health-Readiness/Armed-Forces-Health-Surveillance-Branch/Reports-and-Publications. All cases of PEP for Rabies should be entered into the Disease Reporting System internet (DRSi). Please note that all critical reporting elements and exposure criteria for the case definition should be entered into the comments section of the PEP for Rabies in DRSi. If you have questions or comments, then please contact your service DRSi or CCWG representative.

If there are any questions concerning coordination issues for revision of these documents, contact John Ambrose, AFHSB, at (410) 436-7605 or by e-mail at john.f.ambrose4.civ@mail.mil.

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