UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

PERSONNEL AND READINESS

MAY 2 6 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 9) – Department of Defense Guidance for Deployment and Redeployment of Individuals and Units during the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic

References:
(a) Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6490.03, "Deployment Health," June 19, 2019
(b) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Military Service Pre-Deployment Medical Preparations in Support of Geographic Combatant Commands," April 29, 2020
(c) DoDI 3020.41, "Operational Contract Support," December 20, 2011
(d) Department of Defense COVID-19 Task Force Memorandum, "DoD COVID-19 Task Force Laboratory Testing Line of Effort," April 24, 2020
(e) Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 8) – Department of Defense Guidance for Protecting Personnel in Workplaces during the Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," April 13, 2020
(f) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Guidance for Commanders on Risk-Based Changing of Health Protection Condition Levels During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," May 19, 2020
(g) USD(P&R) Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 5) – Department of Defense Guidance for Movement and Medical Treatment of COVID-19 Patients, Symptomatic Persons Under Investigation, or Potentially Exposed COVID-19 Persons," April 7, 2020

This memorandum provides force health protection (FHP) deployment and redeployment guidance for Service members (including Reserve Component (RC) and National Guard members in a title 10 or title 32 duty status) and DoD civilian employees deploying within and outside the United States during the COVID-19 pandemic, consistent with references (a) and (b).

DoD strongly recommends deploying DoD contractor personnel also follow this DoD FHP guidance, consistent with references (a) and (c). If DoD contractor personnel do not complete the same pre-deployment screening and restriction of movement (ROM) as Service members and DoD civilian employees, they will not be allowed to travel with military and civilian risk-mitigated forces. For purposes of this memorandum, as applicable to civilian employees and contractor personnel, ROM refers to actions consistent with reference (e).

The purpose of the guidance is to: 1) protect our military and civilian personnel and their families; 2) safeguard our national security capabilities; and 3) support the whole-of-nation response to the pandemic. This policy covers deployment to, and redeployment from, any operational area, including COVID-19 operational areas, to home station. In this memorandum, "COVID-19 operational area" means a geographic area or location, overseas or in the United States, where Service members are deployed to provide operational support in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the purposes of this memorandum, the term "home station" means the installation from which the deployment began, or in the case of deployed Reserve or National Guard members, their originating unit location (or home, if not deployed as part of their assigned unit.

DoD Component heads may issue Component-specific guidance via separate correspondence that is consistent with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance outlined below, except where otherwise specified in this Supplement. DoD Component heads may implement more restrictive guidance and additional FHP measures based on Military Department (MILDEP) and commanders' local risk assessments, in consultation with their medical staffs and public health authorities, and in accordance with applicable law. DoD Component heads may choose to exempt assigned air crew of military aircraft from this guidance.

Deployment Requirements

(1) The MILDEPs, as force providers, are responsible for providing medically ready forces, including forces free from current infection with COVID-19, to both Functional Combatant Commands and the Geographic Combatant Commanders (GCCs).

(2) All deploying Service members and DoD civilian employees will complete FHP pre-deployment requirements in accordance with reference (a), including screening for COVID-19 exposure and symptoms, and testing, if available and appropriate, consistent with DoD COVID-19 testing guidance set forth in reference (d).

(3) Screening:

- DoD Component heads will ensure that deploying individuals are appropriately screened at the assigned place of duty or point of embarkation. At a minimum, this screening will consist of an assessment of exposure history, a temperature check, a check for COVID-19 signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, chills, rigors, muscle pain,

headache, sore throat, new smell and taste disorders, coughing, or shortness of breath), and review of any past COVID-19 testing results.

- A DoD healthcare provider must be available for consultation, if unable to directly administer the screening. An evaluation by a healthcare provider, including COVID-19 diagnostic testing if indicated, will be conducted for individuals with a fever or who indicate any affirmative responses to the screening questions.
- For symptomatic individuals, DoD Component guidance will ensure that such personnel consult with a healthcare provider for further assessment and/or testing. Individuals who meet the clinical case definition of a "probable" infection (absent a diagnostic test result) or who are confirmed COVID-19 positive during screening should be isolated per the isolation guidance below.

(4) ROM:

- All Service members deploying outside the United States, whether to a COVID-19 operational area or not, will undergo a mandatory 14-day ROM prior to deployment. DoD strongly recommends deploying DoD civilian employees and DoD contractor personnel undergo a 14-day ROM as well. For deployments outside the United States, when the GCC and the host nation agree or arrange for ROM in country, a pre-deployment ROM is not required.
- If ROM is conducted prior to deployment, travel to the deployed location should, to the maximum extent possible, be in a manner that minimizes the risk of deploying personnel being exposed to or infected with COVID-19 during travel.
- GCCs will inform the MILDEPs if the GCC and the host nation have agreed or arranged for ROM in country upon arrival in the host nation. Every effort will be made to avoid completing a second ROM upon arrival in host nations if possible.
- DoD Component heads may request that the Secretary of Defense waive this requirement if mission requirements dictate and expedited deployment.

Redeployment Requirements

(1) All redeploying Service members and DoD civilian employees will complete FHP redeployment requirements in accordance with reference (a), including screening for COVID-19 exposure and symptoms, and testing, if available and appropriate, consistent with DoD COVID-19 testing guidance set forth in reference (d).

(2) All redeploying Service members and DoD civilian employees will complete a Post-Deployment Health Assessment (DD Form 2796) and Post-Deployment Health Reassessment (DD Form 2900) in accordance with reference (a). This requirement applies to all Service members, including Active Component and RC personnel on title 10 or title 32 orders.

(3) Screening:

- DoD Component heads will ensure that redeploying individuals are appropriately screened at the assigned place of duty or point of embarkation. At a minimum, this

screening will consist of an assessment of exposure history, a temperature check, a check for COVID-19 signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, chills, rigors, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new smell and taste disorders, coughing, or shortness of breath), and review of any past COVID-19 testing results.

- A DoD healthcare provider must be available for consultation, if unable to directly administer the screening. An evaluation by a healthcare provider, including COVID-19 diagnostic testing if indicated, will be conducted for individuals with a fever or who indicate any affirmative responses to the screening questions.
- DoD Component heads will ensure symptomatic Service members consult with a healthcare provider for further assessment and/or testing. Service members who meet the clinical case definition of a "probable" infection (absent a diagnostic test result) or who are confirmed COVID-19 positive during screening should be isolated per the isolation guidance below.

(4) ROM:

- All Service members redeploying, whether from a COVID-19 operational area or not, will undergo a risk-based screening to determine if a 14-day ROM is indicated. If indicated, a14-day ROM will be performed at a location determined by the DoD Component. ROM locations may include home station, the Service member's residence, or other suitable domicile. For RC members, the ROM will be performed while the Service member remains on duty, and prior to the Service member's demobilization. DoD strongly recommends redeploying DoD civilian employees and DoD contractor personnel be assessed as well to determine if a voluntary ROM is indicated.
- DoD Component heads will apply the following CDC guidance in making the risk-based determination for the 14-day ROM:
    - *Public Health Recommendations for Community-Related Exposure* – establishes guidance for all individuals based on community exposure: **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html**.
    - *Public Health Guidance for Potential COVID-19 Exposure Associated with International Travel or Cruise Travel* – provides recommendations for travel-associated exposure: **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html**.
    - *Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)* – provides guidance on the assessment of risk, monitoring, and work restriction decisions for healthcare personnel with potential exposure to COVID-19: **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html**.

- Additionally, in making risk-based determinations for the 14-day ROM, DoD Component heads will consider implications of redeployment to or from locations with differing Health Protection Conditions consistent with reference (f).

(5) Additional ROM actions for redeploying DoD personnel:

- Individuals will self-monitor for subjective fever or by taking their temperatures twice a day if a thermometer is available, and remain alert for COVID-19 signs and symptoms. If symptoms develop in accordance with the CDC guidance, they will self-isolate, notify their chain of command, and seek advice by telephone from the appropriate healthcare provider to determine whether medical evaluation is needed.
- Service members will remain in their residence or other appropriate domicile or location for the 14-day ROM period and avoid close contact (within 6 feet or 2 meters) with others.
- Individuals should separate themselves from other people in their ROM location home or dwelling if residing with roommates or family members and pets or other animals, and avoid sharing personal items.

(6) DoD mission essential personnel and those in critical operational or infrastructure positions, who have redeployed to home station, may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to the virus, provided they remain asymptomatic, wear a face covering, practice social distancing, and an exception to continue work is granted in accordance with reference (e).

(7) The ROM location for Dynamic Force Employment organizations and individuals will be a case-by-case determination coordinated with the losing and gaining organizations and published in the corresponding Secretary of Defense Orders Book.

Isolation Guidance for Potential COVID-19 Cases

For individuals who are identified as symptomatic, probable, or confirmed COVID-19 cases and are required to undergo isolation, DoD Component heads will consider the most recent CDC guidance for release of individuals from isolation and return to home or work. The CDC guidance documents are accessible at the following URLs:

- Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings (Interim Guidance): **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html**.
- Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings (Interim Guidance): **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html**.
- Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 (Interim Guidance): **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html**.

Redeployment or other movement of symptomatic, probable, or confirmed COVID-19 positive individuals will be limited and implemented in accordance with reference (g).

Additional Redeployment Guidelines for Military Service Reserve and National Guard Personnel

The Secretaries of the Military Departments may issue any additional procedural guidance as appropriate for RC personnel. For National Guard members supporting Federal Emergency Management Agency mission assignments, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, in coordination with the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force, will issue redeployment guidance to the States and territories to support mission requirements while minimizing risks to National Guard members. RC personnel in support of another department or agency will complete any required health and ROM measures, including home-based quarantine or self-monitoring, prior to the end of the period of support to that other department or agency.

This document and the other DoD FHP documents are available online at: **https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus**. Individuals should continue to check the CDC COVID-19 website for additional updates at: **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html**.

My point of contact for this guidance is Mr. Steve Jones, who may be reached at (571) 314-6329 or steven.p.jones10.civ@ mail.mil.

Matthew P. Donovan