



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

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MEMORANDUM FOR SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE MARINE CORPS
JOINT STAFF SURGEON

SUBJECT: Automation of Pre- and Post-deployment Health Assessment Forms

The Department of Defense has made great strides toward ensuring the health of our service members in deployed locations. Part of this effort has been the assessment of the health of our forces before and after deployment. Collection of the DD Forms 2795 and 2796, Pre- and Post-deployment Assessment Forms, has been ongoing and continues to improve. It is now time to ensure the data from completed DD Forms 2795 and 2796 are collected and forwarded to the Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS) in an automated fashion.

While the long-term solution must be integrated as part of the computerized patient record within the Military Health System Central Data Repository, I believe we must capture these data electronically as soon as possible. Electronic submission of pre-/post-deployment assessments is considerably more efficient, reduces the possibility of error, and ensures critical data are immediately available to the service member's health care provider through TRICARE Online. I am asking the Services to provide an interim solution to meet this objective as soon as possible. The Army has successfully fielded an automated solution and is currently forwarding the majority of post-deployment assessments and a growing proportion of their pre-deployment assessments to DMSS in an electronic format. Recommend the other Services evaluate the potential for using this technology to provide similar capability. Please be prepared to provide a copy of your implementation plan with timeline and milestones no later than June 7, 2004.

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