



DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY
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Medical Affairs

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: 2022 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions

This memorandum provides information and guidance to staff at military Medical Treatment Facilities for implementation of the “2022 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions.” The reporting of important preventable medical events has long been a cornerstone of public health surveillance rooted in international and national regulations to prevent the introduction, transmission, and spread of communicable diseases. Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 6490.02E “Comprehensive Health Surveillance,” requires the reporting of medical events within the Department of Defense as defined by the guidelines. The guidelines, prepared in collaboration with Defense Centers for Public Health – Aberdeen, Defense Centers for Public Health – Dayton, and Defense Centers for Public Health – Portsmouth, are an updated edition of the currently used January 2020 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions.

Reportable medical events found in the guidelines were chosen by consensus and recommendations from each of the Services. They include notifiable diseases identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, and events that military public health experts have identified as representing significant military threats that deserve additional emphasis for surveillance. Reportable medical events have the potential to affect large numbers of people, to be widely transmitted within a population, to have severe/life-threatening clinical manifestations, and to disrupt military training and deployment. Timely, accurate reporting of probable, suspected or confirmed cases ensures proper identification, treatment, control, and follow-up of cases. The principal goals of the guidelines are to achieve data consistency and standardization of reportable events tracking across each Service and to aid local-level reporting by providing programmatic guidance.

Individuals who need to make reports of these medical events must do so in the Disease Reporting System internet (DRSi), using the 2022 edition of the Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions, effective the date of this memo.^{1,2} Upon dissemination, all medical event reporters are to replace their existing January 2020 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions with the October 2022 edition and continue to utilize these guidelines until new guidelines are developed and published in the future. The guidelines, along with additional resources, can be found at the following link: <https://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/healthsurv/de/Pages/DRSiResources.aspx>.

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Attachments:

1. 2022 Armed Forces Reportable Medical Events Guidelines and Case Definitions
2. DoDD 6490.02E "Comprehensive Health Surveillance," February 8, 2012, as amended

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