



Department of Defense INSTRUCTION

NUMBER 6485.01

June 7, 2013

Incorporating Change 2, Effective June 6, 2022

USD(P&R)

SUBJECT: Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in Military Service Members

References: See Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE. In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive (DoDD) 5124.02 (Reference (a)), this instruction reissues DoD Instruction (DoDI) 6485.01 (Reference (b)) to establish policy, assign responsibilities, and prescribe procedures for the identification, surveillance, and management of members of the Military Services infected with HIV and for prevention activities to control transmission of HIV.

2. APPLICABILITY. This instruction applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD.

3. POLICY. It is DoD policy to:

a. Deny eligibility for military service to persons with laboratory evidence of HIV infection for appointment (other than covered personnel who are seeking to commission while a Service member), enlistment, pre-appointment, or initial entry training for military service pursuant to DoDI 6130.03 (Reference (c)).

b. Periodically screen Service members for HIV infection.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 2.

5. PROCEDURES. See Enclosure 3.

6. RELEASABILITY. **Cleared for public release.** This instruction is available on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

7. SUMMARY OF CHANGE 2. In accordance with the June 6, 2022 Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Reference (m)), the changes to this issuance update DoD policy with respect to individuals who have been identified as HIV-positive. Individuals who have been identified as HIV-positive, are asymptomatic, and who have a clinically confirmed undetectable viral load will have no restrictions applied to their deployability or to their ability to commission while a Service member solely on the basis of their HIV-positive status. Nor will such individuals be discharged or separated solely on the basis of their HIV-positive status.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This instruction is effective June 7, 2013.


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Enclosures

1. References
2. Responsibilities
3. Procedures

Glossary

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ENCLOSURE 1: REFERENCES.....4

ENCLOSURE 2: RESPONSIBILITIES.....5

 UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS
 (USD(P&R)).....5

 ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS (ASD(HA)).....5

 UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY (USD(P)).....5

 SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.....5

ENCLOSURE 3: PROCEDURES.....6

 TESTING AND SCREENING.....6

 MANAGEMENT.....6

 TRANSMISSION CONTROL.....7

 ADVERSE PERSONNEL ACTION.....7

 PRIVACY.....7

GLOSSARY8

 PART I: ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS8

 PART II: DEFINITIONS.....8

ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES

- (a) DoD Directive 5124.02, “Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)),” June 23, 2008
- (b) DoD Instruction 6485.01, “Human Immunodeficiency Virus,” October 17, 2006 (hereby cancelled)
- (c) DoD Instruction 6130.03, “Medical Standards for Appointment, Enlistment, or Induction in the Military Services,” May 6, 2018
- (d) DoD Directive 6490.02E, “Comprehensive Health Surveillance,” February 8, 2012, as amended
- (e) DoD Instruction 6025.19, “Individual Medical Readiness (IMR),” June 9, 2014
- (f) DoD Instruction 6490.03, “Deployment Health,” June 19, 2019
- (g) DoD Instruction 6025.13, “Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) and Clinical Quality Management in the Military Health System (MHS),” February 17, 2011, as amended
- (h) DoD Instruction 6490.07, “Deployment-Limiting Medical Conditions for Service Members and DoD Civilian Employees,” February 5, 2010
- (i) DoD Instruction 1332.18, “Disability Evaluation System (DES),” August 5, 2014, as amended
- (j) Section 705(c) of Public Law 99-661, “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987,” November 14, 1986
- (k) DoD 5400.11-R, “Department of Defense Privacy Program,” May 14, 2007
- (l) DoD 6025.18, “Implementation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rule in DoD Health Care Programs,” March 13, 2019
- (m) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Policy Regarding Human Immunodeficiency Virus-Positive Personnel within the Armed Forces,” June 6, 2022

ENCLOSURE 2

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS (USD(P&R)). The USD(P&R) provides overall policy implementation guidance for:

a. The personnel management of Service members with laboratory evidence of HIV infection.

b. Compliance with host-nation requirements for screening and related matters for Service members.

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS (ASD(HA)). Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R), the ASD(HA) provides overall policy implementation guidance for the medical management of Service members with laboratory evidence of HIV infection and for health education programs to prevent the transmission of HIV.

3. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY (USD(P)). The USD(P):

a. Identifies or confirms host-nation HIV screening and other related requirements and transmits this information to the USD(P&R).

b. Coordinates matters involving host-nation screening and other related requirements with the Department of State.

4. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS. The Secretaries of the Military Departments:

a. Implement this instruction and any guidance issued under the authority of this instruction.

b. Report HIV test results to the Defense Medical Surveillance System pursuant to DoDD 6490.02E (Reference (d)).

c. Direct health care personnel providing medical care to follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for preventing HIV transmission in health-care settings.

ENCLOSURE 3

PROCEDURES

1. TESTING AND SCREENING

a. Applicants for appointment, enlistment, or individuals being inducted into the Military Services will be screened for laboratory evidence of HIV infection in accordance with Reference (c).

b. Applicants to the U.S. Service Academies, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and other officer candidate programs will be tested for laboratory evidence of HIV within 72 hours of arrival to the program and denied entry to the program if such test is positive. Reserve Officer Training Corps program cadets and midshipmen must be tested for laboratory evidence of HIV not later than during their commissioning physical examination, and denied a commission if they test positive.

c. All Service members will be screened periodically for laboratory evidence of HIV infection.

(1) Active duty (AD) and Reserve Component (RC) Selected Reserve (SELRES) personnel will be routinely screened every 2 years unless more frequent screenings are clinically indicated.

(2) Members of the SELRES will be screened at least once every 2 years. RC personnel will be screened when called to a period of AD greater than 30 days if they have not received an HIV test within the last 2 years.

(3) Testing for laboratory evidence of HIV for pre- and post-deployment must be conducted in accordance with DoDI 6025.19 (Reference (e)) and DoDI 6490.03 (Reference (f)).

d. A serum sample from all HIV force screenings will be forwarded to the DoD Serum Repository as directed by Reference (d).

2. MANAGEMENT

a. Clinical management of an AD Service member and an RC Service member on AD for a period of more than 30 days with laboratory evidence of HIV infection will be conducted consistent with standard of care, evidence-based HIV clinical practice standards, and medical management guidelines, as described in DoDI 6025.13 (References (g)).

b. In accordance with DoDI 6490.07 (Reference (h)), the cognizant Combatant Command surgeon will be consulted in all instances of HIV seropositivity before medical clearance for deployment.

c. An AD Service member with laboratory evidence of HIV infection will be referred for appropriate treatment and a medical evaluation of fitness for continued service in the same manner as a Service member with other chronic or progressive illnesses in accordance with DoDI 1332.18 (Reference (i)). An AD Service member with laboratory evidence of HIV infection determined to be fit for duty will be allowed to serve in a manner that ensures access to appropriate medical care.

d. An RC Service member with laboratory evidence of HIV infection will be referred for a medical evaluation of fitness for continued service in accordance with Service regulations, and in the same manner as an RC Service member with other chronic or progressive illnesses. Eligibility for active duty for a period of more than 30 days will be denied to those RC Service members with laboratory evidence of HIV infection (except under conditions of mobilization and on the decision of the Secretary of the Military Department concerned). RC Service members who are not on active duty for a period of more than 30 days or who are not on full-time National Guard duty, and who show laboratory evidence of HIV infection, will be transferred involuntarily to the Standby Reserve only if they cannot be used in the SELRES.

e. AD and RC Service members with laboratory evidence of HIV infection who are determined to be unfit for further duty will be separated or retired pursuant to Reference (i).

3. TRANSMISSION CONTROL. Transmission of HIV will be controlled through aggressive disease surveillance and health education programs for Service members. A Service member with laboratory evidence of HIV infection will receive training on the prevention of further transmission of HIV infection to others and the legal consequences of exposing others to HIV infection.

4. ADVERSE PERSONNEL ACTION. Information obtained during or primarily as a result of an epidemiologic assessment interview will not be used to support any adverse personnel action against the Service member in accordance with section 705(c) of Public Law 99-661 (Reference (j)). This prohibition does not apply to the use of such information for otherwise authorized rebuttal or impeachment purposes.

5. PRIVACY. The privacy of a Service member with laboratory evidence of HIV infection will be protected consistent with DoD 5400.11-R and DoD Manual 6025.18 (References (k) and (l)).

GLOSSARY

PART I. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AD	active duty
ASD(HA)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
DoDD	DoD directive
DoDI	DoD instruction
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
RC	Reserve Component
SELRES	Selected Reserves
USD(P&R)	Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
USD(P)	Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

PART II. DEFINITIONS

These terms and their definitions are for the purposes of this instruction.

adverse personnel action. A court-martial, non-judicial punishment, involuntary separation for other than medical reasons, administrative or punitive reduction in grade, denial of promotion, an unfavorable entry in a personnel record (other than an accurate entry concerning an action that is not an adverse personnel action), or a bar to reenlistment other than for medical reasons.

covered personnel. Individuals who have been identified as HIV-positive, are asymptomatic, and who have a clinically confirmed undetectable viral load.

epidemiologic assessment interview. Questioning of a Service member who has been confirmed by DoD to have laboratory evidence of HIV infection for purposes of medical treatment or counseling or for epidemiologic or statistical purposes.

HIV. The virus(es) associated with the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (commonly referred to as “AIDS”).

laboratory evidence of HIV infection. A reactive and confirmed serologic result, and/or, reactive or quantitative nucleic acid result for HIV infection according to a Food and Drug Administration-approved test.