

DD Form 2796 Primer (January 2008): Post-Deployment Health Assessment (PDHA)

Each re-deploying service member and DoD civilian must complete a **Post-Deployment Health Assessment** using the Post-Deployment Health Assessment Form (**DD 2796**) in accordance with DoD Instruction 6490.03, Deployment Health. Completion of the DD 2796 is a key component of the PDHA and must also include a **face-to-face interview** with a trained health care provider. Directed at the individual's health status and concerns at re-deployment, the screening documents health issues and identifies needed care referrals.

- DD 2796 is mandatory for re-deploying military personnel from every Service, including Reserve Component personnel, and DoD civilians
- A credentialed health care provider must help with and discuss the form during the face-to-face post-deployment health assessment interview. These providers include:
 - Physicians - Physicians Assistants - Nurse Practitioners - Independent duty corpsmen/technicians
- DD 2796 is to be completed using an electronic or Web-enabled form as close to the re-deployment date as possible, but not earlier than 30 days before the expected re-deployment date and NLT 30 days after re-deployment, and for Reserve Component members, before they are released from active duty.

Form Completion Roles and Responsibilities

- **Military Member/DoD Civilian Employee** completes the *Demographics and Health Assessment* sections on *Pages 1–5* with assistance from the medical screener, if needed
 - **Demographics:** Includes identification information, Branch of Service, pay grade, and deployment location and dates
 - **Health Assessment:** Comprises 27 screening and triage questions related to the current deployment
- **Health Care Provider** interviews the re-deploying member and completes the *Post-Deployment Health Provider Review, Interview and Assessment* section on *Pages 6 and 7*. After patient interview, provider documents PDH concerns and recommends referrals and exposure follow-up



DD Form 2796 Primer (Side Two)

Form Completion Roles and Responsibilities (Cont.)

- **Ancillary Staff/Administrator fills** out the *Ancillary Staff/Administrative* section on *Page 7* documenting the type of health information provided to the member, the type of referrals made, and if the member declines to complete the form or accept a referral.

Form Sign-off and Processing

- Health care provider signs the form
- Form is integrated into the deployable medical record—DD Form 2766
- Original form maintained in member's permanent medical record
- Data is sent electronically according to Service-specific guidance to the Defense Medical Surveillance System at AMSA (Army Medical Surveillance Activity) <http://amsa.army.mil>
- Credentialed health care provider at member's home station should review the form with the member to ensure that needed follow-up and medical referrals are scheduled

Follow-up and Ongoing Care

- Personnel should follow-up with the referrals made during the PDHA process
- Military personnel with health concerns they believe are deployment-related, regardless of time of identification, are encouraged to see their Primary Care Provider. DoD civilian employees should go to their Occupational Health Clinic.
- Providers caring for patients with deployment-related concerns should follow the DoD/VA Post-Deployment Health Clinical Practice Guideline (PDH-CPG)
- Additional information on the PDHA Program and the PDH-CPG are available on the DHCC Web site: www.PDHealth.mil or by contacting the DHCC Clinicians Helpline

