



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
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WASHINGTON DC 20350-3000

MCO 6600.3B
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30 JUL 2020

MARINE CORPS ORDER 6600.3B

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: DENTAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

Ref: (a) ASD (HA) Policy Memo 06-001 of 9 Jan 2006
(b) ASD (HA) Policy Memo 02-011 of 4 Jun 2002
(c) BUMED Instruction 6110.14 of 28 Mar 2012
(d) DoD Instruction 6025.19 of 09 Jun 2014
(e) DoD Instruction 1332.45 of Jun 2018
(f) MCO 1326.6 of 19 Feb 2019
(g) OPNAVINST 1300.20 28 Sep 2018
(h) SECNAV M-5214.1
(i) SECNAV M-5210.1
(j) MCO 5210.11F
(k) Title 5 U.S.C. 552a
(l) SECNAVINST 5211.5F

Report Required: Dental Readiness Report (Report Control Symbol
EXEMPT), par 5.a.

1. Situation. To revise the current directive that promulgates a comprehensive and clearly defined Dental Health Care Program for the United States Marine Corps and assigned Navy personnel. This Order is in accordance with references (a) through (l).

2. Cancellation. MCO 6600.3A.

3. Mission. The mission of the Marine Corps Dental Health Care Program is the timely attainment of dental readiness by all Marine Corps units and oral health for each individual. Military doctrine requires rapid response and prolonged sustainment of deployed forces. Dental disease, left untreated, may impair performance and adversely impact the combat effectiveness of deployed units.

4. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Dental health care resources will be prioritized and employed to maintain the dental readiness of deploying

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30 JUL 2020

units and the dental health of individual Marines and Sailors. Operational dental readiness shall be 100 percent for units deploying for extended periods of time and at least 95 percent for all units per reference (a). When a dental exam is projected to expire during the course of a planned deployment, the dental screening is encouraged to be conducted prior to deployment to prevent the erosion of Operational Dental Readiness.

(2) Concept of Operations. Individual Unit Commanders are responsible for the overall dental health of personnel assigned to their units and shall ensure that unit dental readiness is at or above 95 percent. Commanding Officers of Dental Battalions/Naval Dental Centers in support of Marine Corps units shall coordinate, prioritize, and make available all dental assets to assist the Unit Commanders to maximize dental readiness and promote oral health of Marine Corps units.

b. Subordinate Element Missions

(1) Main Effort. Organizational commanders shall establish liaison with the supporting dental activity, and coordinate the scheduling of appointments. Positive action will be taken to ensure all scheduled appointments are given priority and all scheduled appointments are attended. The failure of an individual to attend a scheduled appointment shall be addressed by the individual's command.

(2) Supporting Effort. Commanding Officers at Dental Battalions/Naval Dental Centers in support of Marine Corps units shall ensure that personnel are trained and resources are available to meet the dental treatment requirements of supported units.

c. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Reference (a) states that the dental readiness target of 95 percent of all Navy and Marine Corps units is a goal that must be maintained to ensure a healthy, fit force. The best measure of this is the Operational Dental Readiness reflected on the first day of the month which captures readiness after the monthly Dental Class 4 roll-over and best demonstrates an optimal recall program.

(2) References (b), (c) and (d) set dental classification guidelines.

(3) Reference (e) identifies Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) deficits which include Dental Class 3 and Dental Class 4. This states that Components are expected to immediately correct IMR deficits to ensure service members are ready to deploy.

(4) Reference (f) sets dental classification requirements for recruiting and security guard duty.

30 JUL 2020

(5) Reference (g) states individuals are responsible for their individual dental readiness and that commands must be proactive and ensure individual readiness of service members at all times. Maintaining dental readiness through prescribed health encounters (e.g., annual dental exam and attending scheduled appointments) is a key component of identifying and correcting deficiencies before deployment.

5. Administration and Logistics

a. Reporting Requirement. Unit commanders will provide their supporting dental clinic with accurate and timely unit rosters on a monthly basis. Commanding Officers of Dental Battalions will provide unit commanders with monthly dental readiness reports or when required by the unit commander. This reporting requirement is exempt from reports control according to reference (h), Part IV, paragraph 7.p.

b. Program Requirements. Commanding officers at Dental Battalions/Naval Dental Centers will maintain a comprehensive dental health program that includes:

(1) Periodic oral examinations and risk assessments.

(2) Timely and routine delivery of systemic and topical agents that increase resistance to dental disease, especially for those individuals who have been identified to be at moderate or high risk for dental caries.

(3) Education and counseling to control and modify risk factors that predispose to oral diseases, especially cancer, dental decay, and periodontal disease.

(4) The monitoring of unit and individual dental health and readiness at least monthly or more frequently as required.

(5) Appointment systems that are flexible, responsive to unit OPTEMPO and facilitate Marines and Sailors obtaining timely treatment to attain the prescribed standard of dental readiness and achieve dental health.

c. Records Management. Records created as a result of this Order shall be managed according to National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)-approved dispositions per reference (i) to ensure proper maintenance, use, accessibility and preservation, regardless of format or medium. Records disposition schedules are located on the Department of Navy/Assistant for Administration (DON/AA), Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD) portal page at: <https://portal.secnave.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>. Refer

30 JUL 2020

to reference (j) for Marine Corps records management policy and procedures.

d. Privacy Act. Any misuse or unauthorized disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) may result in both civil and criminal penalties. The Department of the Navy (DON) recognizes that the privacy of an individual is a personal and fundamental right that shall be respected and protected. The DON's need to collect, use, maintain, or disseminate PII about individuals for purposes of discharging its statutory responsibilities shall be balanced against the individuals' right to be protected against unwarranted invasion of privacy. All collection, use, maintenance, or dissemination of PII shall be in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (reference (k)) and implemented per reference (l).

6. Command and Signal

a. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.

b. Command. This Order does not apply to the Marine Corps Reserve.



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