DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE VICE CHIEF OF STAFF
201 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0201

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

24 SEP 2002

SUBJECT: Army Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program Resumption Execution Plan

1. The Department of Defense will resume the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program (AVIP). The approved Army AVIP Resumption Plan is enclosed. Commanders will prepare supporting plans to execute this program, beginning as soon as requirements of the plan are met. The Army continues vaccinating designated special mission units, and will now begin vaccinating military, Emergency-Essential DA civilian and contractor personnel, assigned or deployed for more than 15 days in higher threat areas.

2. The AVIP remains a commander's responsibility to better ensure force health protection. I want to emphasize four important program components:

- **Identify personnel** to be vaccinated. The Army must provide protection to the right people at highest risk IAW DoD policy.
- **Educate personnel** prior to vaccination. I hold Army leaders at all levels responsible for the education of their personnel. Your education tools are available at www.anthrax.mil. Team with local health care personnel to help you.
- **Track vaccinations.** Medical personnel will document vaccinations in Health Records and the Army's automated immunization tracking system, MEDPROS. Commanders will ensure tracking is accomplished and monitor their personnel's compliance with the dosing schedule using the on-line commander's tools MEDPROS provides. HQDA monitors MACOM compliance metrics using MEDPROS.
- **Get personnel medical evaluation** if they experience symptoms following anthrax vaccination—some may be caused by the vaccine, some not—but each deserves individual care and follow-up. Report adverse reactions to the FDA.

4. The Army has consistently done a good job executing this program. I attribute that to the emphasis given this program by leaders—officers, noncommissioned officers, and civilian supervisors. I ask you to give the AVIP your personal attention again to best protect our Army force.

Enclosure

John M. Keane
General, United States Army
Vice Chief of Staff

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