



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

MAY 06 2020

HEALTH AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY

SUBJECT: Updated Guidance on Implementing Tactical Combat Casualty Care Training

This memorandum provides updated guidance on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) training previously addressed in the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs memoranda, "Release of TCCC All Service Member (ASM) Curriculum," dated October 1, 2019 (Attachment One), and "Institutional Milestones of TCCC Training, Certification, and Reporting in the Department of Defense (DoD)," dated April 4, 2019 (Attachment Two).

Consistent with guidance in these two memoranda, the requirement for the Military Services to replace trauma skills taught in Service first aid and self-aid/buddy care courses with the role-appropriate TCCC skill level course, as directed in DoD Instruction 1322.24, "Medical Readiness Training (MRT)," remains unchanged. Furthermore, for Service members and DoD Expeditionary Civilians designated by their Service to complete training on TCCC-ASM, Tier 1, transition to exclusive use of the new standardized curriculum released on August 27, 2019, remains on its original timeline for implementation not later than April 30, 2020.

To facilitate implementation across the DoD, the curriculum for TCCC-ASM has been explicitly designed so that it can be taught by any occupational specialty at the discretion of the Military Service. Furthermore, certification as a TCCC-ASM trainer is granted upon completion of the online TCCC-ASM "train the trainer" course, which was also released in August 2019.

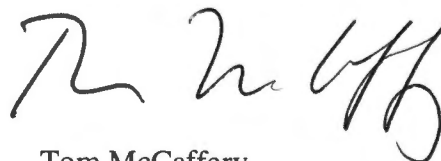
Once fully implemented, the curriculum developed for TCCC-ASM promises to significantly improve casualty care delivered at the point of injury. This curriculum, developed by subject matter experts from across the Total Force and incorporating life-saving, evidence-driven best practices, as well as the online "train the trainer" course are available for viewing and download on the Defense Health Agency (DHA) sponsored Deployed Medicine website at <https://www.deployedmedicine.com>.

For personnel designated to complete training on TCCC-Combat Lifesaver (CLS), Tier 2, official release of both the curriculum, which has completed development, and its corresponding online "train the trainer" course, which is still under development, is currently scheduled to take place not later than June 30, 2020. The official release date, as well as additional details regarding TCCC-CLS, will be forthcoming from the Director, DHA.

The standardized curricula and corresponding online “train the trainer” course for TCCC Tiers 3 and 4 are still being developed. This curricula is designed for enlisted and officer medical professionals and paramedic-level trained operators who provide direct patient care as part of their occupational specialty and are required to perform more advanced TCCC procedures in the expeditionary setting. Development of the more expansive and in-depth curricula and “train the trainer” courses required for both TCCC Tiers 3 and 4 is now projected for completion not later than December 31, 2020. This additional time is needed to complete video production postponed by current COVID-19 travel restrictions as well as fully incorporate lessons learned and employ combat-tested tactics, techniques, and procedures from courses such as the “Joint Special Operations Medical Training Course.”

Once the curriculum and online “train the trainer” course for TCCC Tier 2, 3, or 4 is officially released, the Military Services will have an additional 120 days post-release to implement training on that specific TCCC Tier. Moreover, for the timeframe up until 120 days following release of the curricula and online “train the trainer” course for TCCC Tier 2, 3 or 4, personnel who would otherwise complete TCCC Tier 2, 3 or 4 training prior to deployment will instead continue current Military Service and Combatant Command training requirements in accordance with the DHA Joint Trauma System’s TCCC guidelines. This interim measure will satisfy the requirement to certify in TCCC within 12 months prior to deployment.

Your continued support in helping develop the curriculum for TCCC and institutionalize standardized TCCC training across the Joint Force is instrumental to its success and the Department’s overarching vision of eliminating preventable death in combat. Further updates on institutionalization of TCCC across the Department will be forthcoming from my designee for oversight on the TCCC program, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Readiness Policy and Oversight. My point of contact for this issue is Colonel Steven Ward. Col Ward may be reached at (703) 681-0091 or steven.r.ward2.mil@mail.mil.



Tom McCaffery

Attachments:

As stated

cc:

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness

Surgeon General of the Army

Surgeon General of the Navy

Surgeon General of the Air Force

Director, Joint Staff

Medical Officer of the Marine Corps