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SUBJ/MANDATORY VACCINATION CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 FOR NAVY RESERVE  
FORCE PERSONNEL//

REF/A/DOC/SECDEF/24AUG21//

REF/B/NAVADMIN/OPNAV/319113Z21//

REF/C/DOC/DODINST 6205.02/23JUL19//

REF/D/DOC/BUMEDINST 6230.15B/7OCT13//

REF/E/LTR/CNRF/24AUG21//

REF/F/NAVADMIN/OPNAV/042044MAY21//

REF/G/MSG/MMQC/MMQC 21-1463/24AUG21//

REF/H/DOC/BUPERSINST 1730.11A/16MAR20//

REF/I/DOC/MILPERSMAN 1730-020/15AUG20//

REF/J/ALNAV/SECNAV/30AUG21//

REF/K/DOC/BUMED 6300/03SEP21//

REF/L/DOC/BUMED 6300/03SEP21//

NARR/REF A is SECDEF Memorandum for Senior Pentagon Leadership,  
Commanders of the Combatant Commands and Defense Agency and DOD  
Field Activity Directors, Mandatory Coronavirus Disease 2019  
Vaccination Department of Defense Service Members.

REF B is NAVADMIN 190-21, 2021-2022 Navy Mandatory COVID-19  
Vaccination and Reporting Policy.

REF C is DoD Instruction 6205.02, DoD Immunization Program.

REF D is BUMEDINST 6230.15B, Immunizations and Chemoprophylaxis for  
the Prevention of Infectious Disease.

REF E is CNRF DON Tracker-165, COVID Vaccination that outline  
actions necessary for NRAs/NOSCs to ensure timely and accurate  
ordering, receipt, storage and administration of vaccinations.

REF F is NAVADMIN 088/21, SARS-COV-2 Vaccination and Reporting  
Policy Update.

REF G is Medical Material Quality Control Message, FDA Approves  
Licensure of Pfizer-BioNTech and Shelf Life Extension and EUA Fact  
Sheet Update.

REF H is BUPERS Instruction 1730.11A, Standards and Procedures Governing the Accommodation of Religious Practices.

REF I is the MILPERSMAN 1730-020, Immunization Exemptions for Religious Beliefs.

REF J is ALNAV 062/21, 2021-2022 Department of the Navy mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy.

REF K is BUMEDNOTE 6300, Navy Coronavirus Disease 2019 vaccine medical temporary, and medical permanent exemption for medical contraindication approval process.

REF L is BUMED Memo 6300, Interchangeability of food and drug administration-approved Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine Comirnaty and Food and Drug Administration-authorized Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine under emergency use authorization.//

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RMKS/1. Per ref (a) the Secretary of Defense determined that mandatory vaccination against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is necessary to protect the Force and defend the American people. Refs (b), (j) and (l) describe the Navy policy and process for executing the mandatory vaccinations and shall be read in their entirety. Navy Reserve Commands and leadership shall immediately begin full vaccination of all Navy Reserve military personnel who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Commanders will be creative and aggressively develop plans to get Sailors vaccinated using all available civilian and military resources. Commanders will notify their Sailors on the requirement to vaccinate against COVID-19 and the availability of the COVID-19 vaccinations from local commercial sources IAW ref (f); have 100% of eligible Sailors fully vaccinated NLT 24 December 2021; and per ref (e) order, receive, store and administer COVID-19 vaccinations as needed to ensure all Sailors are vaccinated.

2. IDT/Active Duty Policy.

2.A Beginning October 2021, reschedules, authorized absences, and virtual/telework drills are not authorized until fully vaccinated.

Only exceptions are for extenuating circumstances such as family death, serious injury/illness, or hospitalization. NRA/NOSC Commanders can direct non-fully vaccinated Sailors who drill at off-site locations to report to their assigned NRA/NOSC in order to complete required notifications, counseling, and vaccine administration.

2.B. The use of paid or non-paid IDT drills are authorized in order to maximize opportunities to receive the vaccination at civilian or military sites. Every effort will be made to support drilling reservists who are willing to receive the vaccine through a civilian or local program.

2.C. Active Duty commands may have immunization requirements. Non-fully vaccinated Sailors should coordinate with unit leadership and Reserve Program Director prior to executing orders.

3. COVID vaccination. Per ref (g) the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Pfizer-BioNTech as the first fully licensed COVID-19 vaccine. Per ref (l), the FDA-approved Comirnaty vaccine, and the FDA-Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, have the same formulation, and can be used interchangeably to provide the COVID-19 vaccination series without presenting any safety or effectiveness concerns. Navy medical providers can use Pfizer-BioNTech doses distributed under the EUA to administer mandatory vaccinations. Per ref (a) licensed vaccines are mandatory, however, individuals may elect to receive an FDA-EUA COVID vaccine in lieu of the mandatory vaccine. A complete course of COVID-19 vaccines under FDA licensure or FDA EUA or Expanded Availability (EA), including 2 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna, or 1 dose of Janssen/Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines are required to be considered fully vaccinated.

4. Implementation. Mandatory vaccination requirements for Navy Reserve personnel will be implemented consistent with refs (a) through (d). Navy Reserve personnel are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after completing the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or two weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose vaccine. Navy reserve personnel with previous COVID-19 infection are not considered fully vaccinated.

5. Exemptions/Waivers. The following guidance regarding mandatory vaccination exemptions/waivers is provided IAW refs (b) and (k).

5.A. The process for obtaining medical and administrative exemptions/waivers for mandatory vaccinations is provided in ref (d) and in refs (h) and (i) for religious accommodations and exemptions. Specifically for the COVID-19 vaccination, in addition to the processes in refs (d), (h), and (i), per reference (b) the authority to grant approval of permanent medical exemption/waiver is the first medical Flag Officer. All exemption/waiver requests must be submitted by the conclusion of a Sailors regularly scheduled October drill.

5.B. A history of COVID-19 disease and/or positive serology does not exempt a Navy Reserve member from receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. Navy Reserve personnel who previously received a medical exemption from COVID-19 vaccine while the vaccines were authorized under an Emergency Use Authorization will be reevaluated per paragraph 5.A to determine whether the medical exemption remains valid.

5.C. Navy Reserve personnel who are actively participating in COVID-19 clinical trials are exempted from mandatory vaccination against COVID-19 until the trial is complete in order to avoid invalidating clinical trial results.

6. COVID-19 Vaccination Reporting. Per ref (b) the following COVID-19 reporting is required.

6.A. Navy Reserve vaccination compliance will be monitored via the Medical Readiness Reporting System (MRRS).

6.B. Vaccine administration errors, serious adverse vaccine reactions or clinically significant adverse events will be reported in the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, (<https://vaers.hhs.gov/resources/infoproviders.html>).

6.C. Vaccine administrators will ensure COVID-19 vaccine administration is accurately coded to reflect the type of vaccine given.

6.D. To ensure vaccination is appropriately recorded in MRRS, FTS/AC must provide documentation of any COVID-19 vaccination to their medical department the next duty day. Drilling reservists who receive the vaccination from a retail network pharmacy or other non-DoD vaccine administrator must provide documentation of any COVID-19 vaccination to their NRA/NOSC within 7 days of receipt.

6.E. For Navy Reserve service members without a pending exemption request or whose exemption request was denied, commands will provide counseling regarding refusal to take the COVID-19 vaccine. This counseling will include access to a healthcare professional to answer questions regarding the risks of COVID-19 and the benefits of COVID-19 vaccinations. Commands will then issue a uniform NAVPERS 1070/613 (Page 13) ordering initiation of the COVID-19 vaccine series, to be completed within the time requirements of paragraph 6.E.1 below. The NAVPERS 1070/613 can be found at: <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/cop/crc/COVID/DocumentationandPDFTraining/Forms/Allitems.aspx>.

6.E.1 Vaccination will be initiated within 7 days for FTS/AC and no later than the next drill weekend for drilling reservists.

6.E.2 FTS/AC counseling and Page 13 issuance shall occur NLT 15 September 2021 for members without a pending exemption request. FTS/AC whose exemption request was denied will be counseled and issued the Page 13 within 7 days of the denial.

6.E.3 For drilling reservist counseling and Page 13 issuance shall occur prior to conclusion of the October drill weekend for members without a pending exemption request. Drilling reservists whose exemption request was denied will be counseled and issued the Page 13 no later than the drill weekend after denial. The administrative NRA/NOSC is responsible for the counseling and Page 13.

6.E.4 The Strategic Sealift Officer Program Office will provide guidance sepcor for the Strategic Sealift Officers in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR).

7. Legal. IAW Ref (b) any Navy Reserve personnel who refuse to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, absent an approved exemption/waiver, will constitute a failure to obey a lawful order and may be punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and/or result in administrative action.

7.A. IAW ref(b), Navy Service Members who remain unvaccinated, and who have or are expected to exceed the time requirements of ref(b), their ultimate disposition will be determined by the designated COVID Consolidated Disposition Authority (CCDA). The CCDA will

serve as the central authority for adjudication and will have at his or her disposal the full range of administrative and disciplinary actions. Until further notice, authority is withheld for non-judicial punishment, courts-martial, administrative separation or administrative unsatisfactory drill participation in cases of Navy Service Members refusing vaccination. The assigned CCDAs and specific required reporting procedures and information will be promulgated via separate message.

8. Points of contact.

A. For medical questions commands should contact CAPT Brian N. Bowes, Force Surgeon, (757) 322-5645 or e-mail at [brian.n.bowes@navy.mil](mailto:brian.n.bowes@navy.mil)

B. For legal questions command and members should contact CAPT Bill Bailey, Force Judge Advocate, (757-322-5649) or e-mail at [william.j.bailey@navy.mil](mailto:william.j.bailey@navy.mil).

9. Released by RADM J.A. Schommer, Deputy Commander, Navy Reserve Force.//

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