SUBJECT: Basic Life Support (BLS) Training

References: (a) DoD Instruction 6020.2, subject as above, April 13, 1987 (hereby canceled)
(b) Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, "Accreditation Manual for Hospitals", current edition
(d) American Heart Association, "Basic Life Support," current curriculum
(e) American Red Cross, "Basic Life Support," current curriculum

A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Instruction reissues reference (a) to update policy, responsibilities, and procedures, in accordance with references (b) through (e) for BLS training requirements for healthcare personnel in DoD medical and dental treatment facilities (MTFs and DTFs).

B. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

This Instruction applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Military Departments. It covers DoD Health Care Personnel, as defined in this instruction, assigned to the MTFs and the DTFs.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. Basic Life Support (BLS) Training. Training based on the specifications of the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross.

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1Available from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, One Renaissance Boulevard, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181
2Available from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, One Renaissance Boulevard, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181
3American Heart Association National Center, 7320 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75231
4American Red Cross National Headquarters, 17th and D Sts. NW, Washington, DC 20006
2. **DoD Healthcare Personnel.** Military (Active Duty and Selected Reserve Components), or civilian (Civil Service, foreign national hire, partners and contract) healthcare personnel assigned to, or subject to being assigned to provide direct patient care, either diagnostically or therapeutically in the military MTFs and DTFs.

D. **POLICY**

It is DoD policy that all DoD healthcare personnel shall be trained in BLS and registered for BLS training program completion. That training shall be completed and tested minimally at 2 year intervals. Successful completion of such training shall be registered in the MTFs and the DTFs. Those individuals who are registered as having completed BLS training shall be required to maintain current registration of completion of that training.

E. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) shall monitor the implementation of this Instruction.

2. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall ensure compliance with this Instruction and recommend changes or improvements in the BLS training program to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs).

3. The Surgeons General of the Military Departments shall ensure compliance with this Instruction in their respective medical departments.

F. **PROCEDURES**

Each commander of a MTF and a DTF shall:

1. Have one designated individual responsible for maintaining and coordinating the BLS training program, who shall maintain a list of individuals who are currently trained and registered in the BLS training program.

2. Provide sufficient opportunities for DoD healthcare personnel to maintain current registration.

3. Maintain the instructor's rating in BLS from the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross.

G. **EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION**

This Instruction is effective immediately. Forward one copy of implementing documents to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) within 120 days.

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[Signature]

Enrique Mendez, Jr., M.D.
Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Health Affairs)