



Standard Guide for Environmental Health Site Assessment Process for Military Deployments¹

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1. Scope

1.1 *Purpose*—The purpose of this guide is to describe a scientific methodology for conducting environmental health site assessments (EHSAs) for military deployments. EHSAs are prepared to evaluate potential environmental exposures that may impact the health of deployed personnel as directed by Presidential Review Directive 5; Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff memorandum MCM-0006-02; and Department of Defense Instruction 6490.3. This guide is intended to assist the user in developing conceptual site models (CSMs) for deployment sites. CSMs are used to define the exposure pathways. The exposure pathways assist in the evaluation of potential health impacts. The goal of this guide is to identify complete and potentially complete exposure pathways that may affect the health of deployed personnel.

1.2 This guide provides a series of steps designed to obtain sufficient information to evaluate potential environmental exposures that may affect the health of deployed personnel. It is most applicable when only a limited amount of information about the deployment area is available. If it becomes apparent to the environmental health professional in predeployment planning activities that sufficient information exists to evaluate the health significance of potential environmental exposures, it will not be necessary to complete the data collection activities described in this process. In this event, the environmental health professional will document their justification for not completing the data collection activities. An obvious example would be deployment to a major city in a developed county.

1.3 Information generated by this process will be used for environmental health risk assessments. Environmental health risk assessments are beyond the scope of this guide.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory requirements prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 DoD References:²

- Presidential Review Directive 5, *Planning for Health Preparedness and Readjustment of the Military, Veterans, and Their Families After Future Deployments*, August 1998
- Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6490.3, *Implementation and Application of Joint Medical Surveillance for Deployments*, 1997
- Office of the Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff Memorandum MCM-0006-02, *Updated Procedures for Deployment Health Surveillance and Readiness*, February 2002
- Department of the Army (DA), *Risk Management*, FM 100-14, April 1998
- OPNAVINST 3500.39A/Marine Corps Order 3500.27A, *Operational Risk Management*, September 2000
- Air Force Instruction 90-901, *Operational Risk Management*, April 2000
- U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM) TG 230, *Chemical Exposure Guidelines for Deployed Personnel*, January 2002, updated April 2002
- U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM) TG 236A, *Basic Radiological Dose Estimation—A Field Guide* (Draft, August 2001)
- U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM) TG 248, *Guide for Deployed Preventive Medicine Personnel on Health Risk Management*, August 2001
- U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM) TG 251 (Draft) *A Soldier's Guide to Environmental and Occupational Health Field Sampling During Military Deployment*, November 2001
- U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM) TG 288, *Entomological Operational Risk Management*, September 2003
- Defense Intelligence Agency, *Defense Intelligence Report*,

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E50 on Environmental Assessment, Risk Management and Corrective Action and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E50.05 on Environmental Risk Management.
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² Available from DODSSP, Building 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5098.