



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COVID-19 TASK FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20301



ACTION MEMO

FOR: DIRECTOR, DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY

FROM: Paul R. Cordts, Deputy Assistant Director, Medical Affairs

SUBJECT: Request for Extension of Effective Date for the Blanket Supplemental Health Care Program Waiver for COVID-19 Testing in Asymptomatic Active Duty Service Members

- Request your signature below, approving the six-month extension of the blanket Supplemental Health Care Program (SHCP) waiver to August 31, 2021.
- In June 2020, Major General Lee E. Payne, former Lead Department of Defense (DoD) COVID-19 Task Force Diagnostics and Testing Line 7, requested the Director, Defense Health Agency (DHA), approve a blanket SHCP waiver for COVID-19 testing of asymptomatic Active Duty Service members (ADSMs). The waiver was approved on July 2, 2020 (TAB B). .
- The waiver set an end date for coverage of February 28, 2021. Due to the pandemic’s progression and the time required for the distribution of approved COVID-19 vaccines and immunization of the Force, ending the blanket waiver on the current date is premature.
- Colonel Mark A. Ireland, Chief of Staff for Line of Effort 7, COVID-19 Diagnostics, Surveillance and Testing, is recommending a six-month extension to allow for distribution of the vaccines and completion of the requisite two doses.
- The recommended new effective date would be August 31, 2021. All other requirements set out in the blanket waiver would still apply.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Director, DHA, approve a six-month extension of the blanket SHCP waiver to August 31, 2021 by signing below.

COORDINATION: TAB C

(for) Approve _____ Digitally signed by Kiyokawa.Guy.Toshimitsu.1
KIYOKAWA.GUY.TOSHIMITSU.1
179491830
Date: 2021.01.19 11:48:59 -05'00' Disapprove _____

Attachments:
As stated

Prepared by: Dr. James Black, M.D., Clinical Support Division Medical Director,
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