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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-112//  
TO AIG 4905

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SUBJ: THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) AIRBORNE HAZARDS AND  
OPEN BURN PIT REGISTRY MEDICAL GUIDANCE

A. ALCOAST 402/14

1. The VA in collaboration with the Department of Defense and Coast Guard (CG) has established an Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry for veterans and service members who deployed to Southwest Asia, Afghanistan, and Djibouti. See Ref (A) for further background information.
2. CG active duty service members and reserve members on active duty for at least 30 days should bring their completed self-assessment questionnaire (accessible on the Registry website) to their primary care manager (PCM). For those members with civilian Tricare PCMs, they should also bring the evaluation and treatment protocols (also accessible on the Registry website) to their civilian Tricare PCM.
3. CG Medical Officers (MOs) will assess the members concern and chief complaint and review the questionnaire with the member. CG MOs will take a medical history emphasizing occupational and environmental exposures (e.g., airborne hazards, smoking history, etc) and document pertinent positives. As clinically indicated, CG MOs will perform a focused physical exam, order diagnostic tests, and seek subspecialty consultation. The CG MO will fully document the encounter and code it as V70.5(UNDERSCORE)6.
4. CG reserve members not currently on active duty for at least 30 days and CG retirees have the option of requesting a medical assessment at the VA.
5. For questions regarding this message, contact CDR Gerald Taylor, Occupational Medicine Chief, at Gerald.N.Taylor(AT)USCG.MIL or (202) 475-5211.
6. CAPT Erica G. Schwartz, Chief, Office of Health Services, sends.
7. Internet release authorized.

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