1. Q: Why do Public Health Service Officers (PHS) require a full physical every five (5) years in addition to a PHA?
   A: The Coast Guard requires annual PHA for all members including PHS Officers. However, the USPHS requires periodic physical examinations. Therefore, USPHS Officers detailed to the Coast Guard will end up having a periodic physical exam every 5 years to age 50 and then every three years after age 50 in order to satisfy USPHS requirements...and have an annual PHA to meet Coast Guard requirements.

2. Q: The performance and credibility of the “Finger Rub” does not promote confidence in patients. Can clinics perform audiograms on all PHA patients instead?
   A: No. The finger rub is a cursory examination to determine a gross hearing impairment. The PHA Instruction will mandate the finger rub as the primary means of testing.

3. Q: Can a PHA substitute for a Command Afloat or Landing Signal Officer (LSO) physical examination?
   A: No. The PHA can be performed and additional testing added (i.e. depth perception for LSO) but the patient MUST SEE A PROVIDER. The patient MUST have a face-to-face with a Medical Officer regardless of their risk status.

4. F: Specialty exams such as, commissioning, appointment to Chief Warrant Officer (CWO), enlistment, retirement, confinement, release from active duty (RELAD), aviation, Landing Signal Officer (LSO), dive, and Medical Evaluation Board (MEB)) are still required when indicated.

5. Q: Do we need to complete a PHA every year for aviation personnel?
   A: Yes. In conjunction with the PHA, a full aviation physical will be required every two years.

6. F: If a member has had a 5-year physical in 2008, he/she will be required to have a PHA during their birth month in 2010. They will stay GREEN until the last day of their birth month in 2010. Members will turn yellow 3 months before the end of their birth month.
7. **F:** If a member has a current 5-year physical that was conducted in 2004-2007, he/she will be required to have a PHA during their birth month in 2009. They will stay **GREEN** until the last day of their birth month in 2009.

8. **F:** If a member had a PHA in 2008 at a pilot site, he/she will be required to have a PHA during their birth month in 2009. They will stay **GREEN** until the last day of their birth month in 2009.

9. **F:** If a member is delinquent with regard to their 5-year physical and/or PHA, they will be required to have a PHA during their birth month in 2009. They will remain **RED** until their PHA is completed.

10. **F:** When the member calls the PHA Call Center to schedule a PHA appointment, he/she must be scheduled within 28 days.

11. **Q:** Will the civilian contract provider draw an HIV sample during the PHA appointment if the member is due for an HIV draw?

   **A:** No, not at this time. The IDHS is required to draw the HIV sample and submit it to the contracted laboratory for processing.

12. **Q:** Will LHI (the company contracted by the CG to oversee the RHRP) enter Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) items into MRRS completed during the PHA?

   **A:** Yes, LHI is required to enter all IMR items updated at the member’s PHA appointment.

13. **Q:** What is a Deployment Limiting Condition (DLC)?

   **A:** A deployment limiting condition is defined as having one of the following conditions:
   
   (1) Pregnancy and 6 weeks post partum
   (2) Injuries/illnesses that require a 6 month or greater Temporary Limited Duty (TLD) assignment
   (3) Dental class III (patient who requires urgent or emergent dental work)

14. **Q:** Who is notified when a member is determined to have a DLC by LHI?

   **A:** The Health, Safety, Work Life Support Activity (HSWL SUPACT) point of contact will be notified by LHI. The HSWL SUPACT POC will notify the member’s supporting IDHS and the IDHS’s Designated Medical Officer Advisor.
14. Q: What happens when a member is found to have a medical condition that is not a DLC?
   A: The member is referred back to their primary care manager for a follow-up and/or further evaluation.

15 F: Two key issues

- Ensure you notify the clinic or RHRP coordinator (when you call for your PHA appointment) if you are on the OMSEP program (i.e. hearing conservation program).
- For those members not enrolled at a CG Clinic, ensure you bring your Dental DD-2813 with you to your PHA appointment. This can be obtained from whoever holds your health record. Your dental exam must have been within the last 11 months. If it has been longer than 11 months, you must schedule a dental exam PRIOR to your PHA appointment.