

ALARACT 046/2012

DTG: R 012050Z MAR 12

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT BY THE PENTAGON TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER ON BEHALF OF DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE-MSO//

SUBJECT: INITIATION OF EXPANDED PRESCRIPTION DRUG URINALYSIS TESTING

1. REFERENCES:

A. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ALDODACT 01/12 311615Z JAN 12

B. AR 600-85, ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM, RAPID ACTION REVISION (RAR), 2 DECEMBER 2009//

2. ON 01 MAY 2012, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) WILL EXPAND MILITARY DRUG TESTING OF THE MORE COMMONLY ABUSED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS BEGINNING WITH HYDROCODONE AND HYDROMORPHONE. WHILE THESE POWERFUL PAIN MANAGEMENT DRUGS CAN ALLEVIATE SUFFERING FROM INJURIES, THEY ARE POTENTIALLY HIGHLY ADDICTIVE AND THEIR USE OUTSIDE OF MEDICAL SUPERVISION PLACES THE SOLDIER AND THEIR COMRADES AT RISK. SOLDIERS WHO ARE USING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PRESCRIBED OR DISPENSED BY THEIR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ARE ENCOURAGED TO VOLUNTARILY SEEK MEDICAL TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR THEMSELVES IN A MILITARY MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITY ON A SELF-REFERRAL BASIS PRIOR TO THE INITIATION OF TESTING FOR THESE DRUGS.

3. THE DOD AND ARMY POLICIES STATE THAT INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT SELF-REFER FOR TREATMENT AND ARE SUBSEQUENTLY IDENTIFIED AS POSITIVE FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FOR WHICH THEY DO NOT HAVE A VALID PRESCRIPTION MAY BE CONSIDERED IN VIOLATION OF THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE FOR DRUG MISUSE/ABUSE. PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ARE INAPPROPRIATELY USED WHEN THEY ARE USED OUTSIDE THEIR INTENDED PURPOSE, BEYOND THEIR PRESCRIBED DATES, IN EXCESS OF THE PRESCRIBED DOSING REGIMEN, OR WHEN A SOLDIER USES ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL'S PRESCRIBED MEDICATIONS.

4. SOLDIERS SEEKING SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING CAN TALK TO THEIR DOCTOR, CHAIN OF COMMAND OR SELF-REFER TO THE ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM. THE ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM (ASAP) STAND READY TO ASSIST SOLDIERS IF NEEDED.

5. IN ADDITION, MILITARY ONESOURCE HAS CONTRACTED CIVILIAN COUNSELORS THAT PROVIDE CONFIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT AND COUNSELING TO MILITARY PERSONNEL. MILITARY ONESOURCE CAN BE CONTACTED AT 1-800-342-9647, OR THROUGH THE WEB AT:
WWW.MILITARYONESOURCE.COM/MOS/ABOUT/COUNSELINGSERVICES.ASPX.

6. POINT OF CONTACT IS DR. LES MCFARLING, DIRECTOR, ARMY CENTER FOR

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS, EMAIL LESLIE.H.MCFARLING.CIV@MAIL.MIL, DSN
536-2517/COM (502)-626-2517.

7. THIS MESSAGE WAS APPROVED BY THE DCS, G-1.

8. EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.