



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DASG-HS-AS

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL
5109 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH VA 22041-3258



12 MAY 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR

COMMANDERS, MEDCOM REGIONAL MEDICAL COMMANDS
COMMANDER, ARMY ROTC CADET COMMAND, ATTN: COMMAND SURGEON

SUBJECT: PELVIC EXAMS AND PAP TESTS

1. This memorandum clarifies the policy on Pelvic Exams and Pap tests as part of accession medical exams.
2. Pelvic exams and cervical cytologic screening tests for cancer (e.g. PAP) are not required for medical exams for appointment or enlistment. This includes medical exams for entistment, direct appointment, non-scholarship ROTC applicants, ROTC contracting and basic camp exams, ROTC advanced camp/commissioning exams and any DODMERB exams (e.g. ROTC Scholarship and military academy applicants).
3. The first required pelvic exam and cervical cytologic screening test is IAW paragraph 8-20a, AR 40-501, during the active duty female soldier's first year on active duty.
4. Background: In 1997, the Department of Defense (FM&P) rescinded the requirement for a pelvic exam as part of the accession medical exam. MEDCOM issued an implementing memorandum on 8 July 1997 (enclosed). Because the 1997 MEDCOM memorandum referred to the "Military Entrance Processing Command" requirement, there has been confusion as to the policy for exams performed outside of the MEPS. The policy applies regardless of where the exam is performed (e.g. MTFs).
5. AR 40-501 is under revision. An exception to policy to AR 40-501 to rescind the requirement in paragraph 8-12e(1) for a pelvic exam as part of appointment or enlistment exams is granted, pending a change to the regulation. Policies are under review to consider yearly chlamydia screening, newer cervical cytologic screening tests, HPV testing etc. for soldiers once accessed, however, at this time please ensure the requirement for a yearly pelvic exam and pap test is followed.
6. POC Ms Wortzel, DSN 761-0020.

FOR THE SURGEON GENERAL:

Encl


STEVE PHURROUGH
COL, MC



Director, Health Policy and Services