

**12 FEBRUARY 2001**



**Medical Command**

**FAMILY ADVOCACY PROCEDURES  
FOR REPORTING, TRANSPORTING, AND  
PROVIDING MEDICAL TREATMENT AND  
EXAMINATION OF AN ABUSED/  
SUSPECTED TO HAVE BEEN ABUSED CHILD**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This instruction establishes procedures at McChord AFB for reporting, transporting, and providing medical treatment and examination of children who have been abused/suspected to have been abused/neglected. General guidance is contained in AFI 40-301. This instruction applies to all personnel dealing with a confirmed or suspected abuse or neglect of a child located either temporarily or permanently on McChord AFB. Entitlements to and charges for care in Air Force medical facilities are prescribed in AFI 41-115.

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

Security Police is changed to Security Forces throughout; paragraph **2.2.1.4.** phone numbers for Judge Advocacy and Law Enforcement Desk changed; paragraph **2.2.**, DSHS Manual # was deleted; paragraph **2.3.2.2.**, added "treatment may be rendered IAW AFI 41-115 para 1.12.1., paragraph **2.3.2.3.**, added to end of sentence - or in accordance with applicable state or local laws; paragraph **2.4.4.**, changed phone number to reflect correct one. A "¶" indicates revised material since the last edition.

**1. Reference.** AFI 40-301, *Family Advocacy Program* and AFI 41-115, *Authorized Health Care and Health Care Benefits in the Military Health Service System.*

**2. Responsibilities:**

2.1. Reporting of Child Abuse Cases:

2.1.1. All incidents of suspected or otherwise injury, neglect, death of a child, sexual abuse and cruelty to children by parents or custodians must be reported by military and civilian personnel IAW AFI 40-301, paragraph 1.19.

2.1.2. Any agency or person who has reason to believe that a child under 18 years of age (or mentally retarded person of any age) is being abused or neglected will report this incident to the Security Forces and Family Advocacy Officer or designated representative who will, in turn, report the incident to Washington State Child Protective Services personnel.

2.1.3. All victims of and witnesses of child abuse shall be referred to the base legal office (982-5512) for information on the base Victim and Witness Assistance Program to assure all victims and witness of child abuse receive available protection and assistance.

## 2.2. Transportation of Abused/Neglected Child:

2.2.1. Air Force vehicles assigned to the 62d Medical Group Clinic may be used to transport the child from a location on McChord AFB to the 62d Medical Group Clinic or Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC) in the following:

2.2.1.1. In emergency situations with the oral or written consent of a parent or legal guardian.

2.2.1.2. In emergency situations without the consent of a parent or legal guardian, with the consent of authorized persons in temporary care of the child, or on authorization of the Installation Commander or his or her designated representative.

2.2.1.3. In non-emergency situations with the written consent of a parent or legal guardian after coordination with the Director of Base Medical Services (DBMS).

2.2.1.4. In non-emergency situations without the written consent of a parent or legal guardian provided coordination has been made in advance with the "on call" Judge Advocate (during duty hours - 982-5512; after duty hours - call the Security Forces Law Enforcement Desk Sergeant at 982-5624).

2.2.2. Washington State Child Protective Services personnel may transport children to protective environments as outlined by Washington State Law after direct transfer of custody by on-scene Security Force member with the authorization of the Installation Commander or his or her designated representative.

2.2.3. If it is determined that the child does not require emergency medical treatment but does indeed need further assessment, the child may be transported to MAMC by the sponsor, spouse of the sponsor, or designated representative if it is felt that the specific person will follow through with the necessary action.

## 2.3. Medical Treatment of the Child Suspected to be Abused or Neglected:

2.3.1. In the majority of cases, treatment of children will be accomplished at MAMC.

2.3.2. Should medical treatment of the abused child by the 62 MDG personnel be necessary, it should be made only under the following:

2.3.2.1. In emergency situations with the oral or written consent of a parent or legal guardian.

2.3.2.2. In emergency situations with the consent of an authorized person in temporary care of the child, or an on-duty member of the Security Forces or Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) agent, provided consent of a parent or legal guardian is refused or not readily available. 62 MDG personnel should record the nature of the threat to life, limb or health and the circumstances, which preclude obtaining consent of a parent or legal guardian prior to commencing treatment. In no event should the life of the child be endangered by withholding

medical treatment. Treatment may be rendered IAW AFI 41-115, paragraph 1.12.1.

2.3.2.3. In non-emergency situations with the written consent of a parent or legal guardian or in accordance with applicable state or local laws.

2.3.3. Treatment may be made without the necessity of transportation to the 62 MDG Clinic or MAMC.

2.4. Medical Examination of the Child Suspected to be Abused or Neglected:

2.4.1. In the majority of cases, examination of children will be accomplished by MAMC.

2.4.2. Examination of the child by 62 MDG personnel may be conducted with the consent of an authorized person in temporary care of the child, or on authorization of the Installation Commander or his/her designated representative, provided consent of a parent or legal guardian is refused or not readily available.

2.4.3. Examination may include, but is not limited to, x-rays, laboratory data, physical examination, consultation reports, and color photographs.

2.4.4. Photographs for non-medical reasons such as possible disciplinary or legal actions will be taken only after coordination with the "on call" Judge Advocate (call through the Security Forces Law Enforcement Desk Sergeant at 982-5624) or by responding AFOSI or Security Police personnel as part of their standard procedures.

2.4.5. Examination may be made without the necessity of transportation to the 62 MDG Clinic or MAMC.

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