



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY
2480 LLEWELLYN AVENUE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5800

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

8 December 2003

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 34

PROHIBITION OF 91D (OR TECHNICIAN) AS FIRST ASSIST IN OPERATING ROOMS

1. Reference:

a. DA Pam 611-21, 31 March 1999, subject: Military Occupational Classification and Structure.

b. MEDCOM Cir 40-14, 17 March 2003, subject: Career Management Field 91: Clinical Baseline Competencies for Enlisted Medical Personnel Performing Direct Patient Care at the Military Treatment Facility.

c. E-mail, COL Doreen M. Lounsbery, Deputy Chief, Quality Management, MEDCOM, 2 October 2003, subject: Update on the First Assist Issue.

2. Applicability: This policy applies to all operating rooms throughout the MEDDAC.

3. Policy.

a. Within this MEDDAC, 91D personnel will not be utilized in First Assist duties. They are neither trained nor certified to perform such duties and to utilize them in this manner could result in serious consequences to our patients, not to mention serious and expensive legal complications for the MEDDAC. If a qualified individual is not available to perform the duties of First Assist for an operation, the operation will not be performed, just as if the operating physician or anesthetist was not available.

b. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Violations will be considered major infractions and will result in disciplinary action, or recommendations for disciplinary action, depending on whether the violators are indigenous to the MEDDAC or visiting providers from other medical treatment facilities.

//Original Signed By//
JOAN P. EITZEN
COL, AN
Commanding

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