CIVIL AIR PATROL
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
MAXWELL AFB AL 36112-6332

CAP REGULATION 160-1 (E)

6 MAY 2002

Medical

THE CAP HEALTH SERVICE PROGRAM

This regulation establishes philosophy and policy for the CAP Health Service Program as well as requirements for health service personnel. **Note: This regulation is revised in its entirety.**

SECTION A – GENERAL INFORMATION

1. People are the most valuable asset of any organization. This is especially true of any voluntary organization such as CAP. In order for those people to perform their tasks well, they should be optimally healthy, physically fit, and well-trained. Physical fitness, health promotion, environmental protection, and skill and knowledge in providing emergency care are readiness issues. Training at every level must reflect these issues. Since CAP is an integral part of the Air Force family, a program reflecting the foregoing is necessary. CAP health services' overarching program goal is to assist our entire membership to become and/or remain optimally healthy and fit, and to be skilled in providing basic emergency care. This means:

a. CAP members should have the knowledge and skills to perform emergency health care such as CPR and first aid.

b. CAP members should strive to reflect US Air Force fitness and health promotion values.

SECTION B – POLICY

2. The National Commander may appoint a Chief of the CAP Health Service. The chief advises the National Commander on matters of health service policy and activities, and is the chair of the Health Service Working Group. He/she must be a health professional, who will, by training and experience, demonstrate attitude, knowledge and/or skills in areas such as aerospace medicine, prevention, wellness, health promotion, health education and readiness.

a. The chief may have a staff of up to five, as needed, for the proper management of the Health Service Program. The staff should be in disciplines other than that of the chief, and will be appointed by the chief, with the concurrence of the National Commander.

b. A Health Service Working Group, composed of personnel in several of the health professional disciplines, will be constituted to work collegially with the chief in the further development and evaluation of the Health Service Program. The chief will appoint such persons with the concurrence of their respective commanders. These individuals will serve on the working group in addition to their regular duty assignments.

3. Field positions.

a. Each region and wing commander should have a health professional on his/her staff. To ensure compliance with prescribed health service standards, the National Chief of Health Service serves as an advisor to each region/wing commander for the appointment of a new wing/region health service program officer.

b. Each unit should have a health professional assigned in a health service position.

4. The health service staff and working group should conduct a survey of health/fitness and emergency care and training throughout CAP at least quadrennially.

5. A Health Service Program Seminar should be conducted at every national, region, and wing conference. All units will conduct appropriate training as required by CAP regulations.

6. Medical care policy.

a. Medical care within CAP is limited to emergency care, only (i.e., first aid and stabilization) within the training and qualifications of the person rendering such care, until such time that private professional or authorized military care can be obtained.

b. All emergency medical care must be reported by the person rendering such care to the person providing the next higher level of care, and documented in accordance with CAPR 62-2.

Supersedes CAPR 160-1, 1 June 1993.
OPR: DP
Distribution: In accordance with CAPR 5-4.

SECTION C – DUTIES OF HEALTH SERVICE PERSONNEL

7. CAP health service personnel are responsible for advising CAP commanders and unit personnel on the health, fitness, disease and injury prevention, and environmental protection of CAP members relevant to CAP activities, with special emphasis on those members involved in flying, emergency services and disaster relief activities, field exercises, encampments, and special activities.

a. Such advice will be in writing; however, in the case of verbal advice given in an emergency, it will be documented as soon as possible.

b. CAP health service personnel should provide advice and guidance in their area of medical expertise only; otherwise they should seek appropriate consultation. CAP medical officers will not give required FAA or other examinations as part of their CAP duties.

c. All health service personnel will be trained in CPR, first aid and blood-borne pathogens/disease prevention, and hold current certifications and/or training documentation in these areas.

d. Provide for training in first aid, CPR, and other life-saving measures.

e. Provide for blood-borne pathogen/disease prevention training.

f. Report illness, injury, and blood-borne pathogen exposures and urge members so injured, ill and/or exposed to obtain appropriate follow-up medical care from non-CAP sources. (See CAPR 62-2 for reporting procedures.)

g. Advise members to obtain necessary examinations from non-CAP health care sources and to complete emergency care consent forms where required by regulation in order to participate in various CAP activities. CAP health service personnel will not perform such examinations as part of their CAP duties.

h. Assist in providing necessary health service training materials, supplies, and equipment for unit missions or special activities, including first aid and blood-borne pathogen/disease prevention kits.

i. All health service personnel should espouse the Air Force's health promotion/wellness/fitness philosophy.

SECTION D – QUALIFICATIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE PERSONNEL

8. Appointment standards for health service personnel. Any health professional or technician may qualify for a health service appointment in CAP, provided that proof of current unrestricted licensure, registration, or certification, where such is required by law or regulation, is furnished. (See the attached listing of specific disciplines). Only physician categories will have the title of "medical officer." Only nurse categories will have the title "nurse officer." All others will be known as "health service officers."

9. Members in any of the foregoing health disciplines may serve as a unit's health service program officer. If a unit has more than one health professional assigned, the most senior in terms of level of education and training should be the designated health service program officer and any others as his/her assistants.

10. Initial Appointment and Promotion: CAPR 35-5 prescribes appointment and promotion procedures for health service personnel.

11. Training and Professional Growth: All health service personnel are expected to receive annual continuing education in their professional discipline and are encouraged to participate in the CAP Professional Development Program as outlined in CAPR 50-17.

12. Health service personnel will wear an appropriate CAP uniform in the conduct of their duties, the same as any other member, as prescribed in CAPM 39-1. Health service insignia, badges, and certification patches are prescribed in CAPM 39-1.

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Professional Disciplines Eligible to Serve as CAP Health Service Personnel

Individuals in the following health disciplines are eligible to serve as CAP Health Service Personnel

Health Professionals with Doctoral Degree (such as)

Physicians (MD and DO)
Flight Surgeons (MD/DO w/special training in aviation/aerospace medicine)
Veterinarian (DVM)
Optometrist (OD)
Chiropractor (DC)
Dentists (DDS/DMD)
Psychologist (Phd)
Podiatrist (DPM)

Health Professionals with Bachelors/Masters Degree (such as)

*Registered Nurse
Health Service Administrator
Physical Therapist
Occupational Therapist
Clinical Mental Health Professional
Social Worker
Physician Assistant
Audiologist
Medical Physiologist
Biomedical Scientist
Dietician
Bioenvironmental Engineer
Public Health Specialist
Medical Entomologist
Pharmacist
Biomedical Laboratory Technologist (BS/MS)
Health Physicist
Respiratory Therapist

*All registered nurses qualify in this category regardless of their specialty or type of degree received

Health Technicians

Health Service Management
Medical Materiel
Biomedical Equipment
Biomedical Engineering
Mental Health
Diet Therapy
Public Health
Aeromedical Laboratory
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Respiratory Therapy
Physiology
Medical Service (includes LPNs and EMTs)
Surgical Service (OR techs)
Pharmacy
Radiology
Nuclear Medicine
Histopathology
Cytotechnology
Orthotics
Optical