



US&R California Task Force 4
9812 Bigge Street
Oakland, CA 94603
(510) 615-5872

March 13, 2025

To: Medical Professionals Caring for California Task Force 4 Team Members

From: Dr. Bill Peterson, CATF4 Medical Team Manager

Re: Tri-Annual Physician Clearance for Deployment of California Task Force 4 Personnel

Dear Medical Provider:

You are participating in the care of one of the personnel affiliated with FEMA Urban Search and Rescue CA TF4. Our task force consists of over 210 members, made up primarily of fire service members from over 12 East Bay jurisdictions. Our civilian members include canine search handlers, structural engineers, heavy equipment riggers, and physicians.

Our search and rescue team works under the auspices the Office of Homeland Security/ FEMA and certain recommendations have been set forward for biennial health screening of our personnel. Some are considered optional depending on the risk assessment of the individual. Please use the following recommendations for screening to help optimize the care of your patient. Much of the testing would be usual and appropriate for personnel of a given age / background and should be covered by the individual's health insurance. The task force will compensate any testing or evaluation that goes beyond this standard.

Once any screening/immunizations that your office has deemed appropriate have been performed, please provide your patient the signed "Clearance for Deployment" letter. Please provide a copy of the resting EKG. Additional lab tests or medical records are requested if you deem appropriate.

Any questions can be addressed to the Program Coordinator or Medical Manager at:

US&R California Task Force 4
Attention: Program Coordinator
9812 Bigge Street
Oakland, CA 94603
(510) 615-5872

All correspondence will be kept strictly confidential and will be secured observing HIPPA regulations.



Recommendations for Tri-Annual Year Screening:

Exam

- Vital signs and standard physical exam
 - Optional lifestyle risk assessment medical history questionnaire/body composition
- EKG resting
 - Optional STRESS EKG is indicated by age or coronary artery disease risk factor assessment
- Spirometry (optional only if already conducted as part of the sponsoring agency respiratory program or other health maintenance program)
 - Optional chest x-ray
 - Optional audiometry/visual acuity/peripheral vision/glaucoma screening/color vision
 - Optional cancer screening (breast exam/mammography, Pap smear, prostate exam/PSA, testicular exam, still cold blood/rectal exam, skin exam)

Laboratory

- CBC W/ differential & platelets
- Chemistry Panel [to include liver and renal function tests, total protein, albumin, calcium and electrolytes], lipid profile
- Urinalysis
- Urine Heavy Metal Screen (post-deployment only)
- RBC and plasma cholinesterase
 - Optional store plasma and whole blood for post-exposure evaluation only or run test.

Vaccinations

- PPD annually
- Influenza A& B (seasonal)
- Tetanus toxoid or Tetanus/diphtheria (Td) every 10 years
- MMR
- Polio (OPV or eIPV)
- Hepatitis A and B
- Varicella (or personal history of illness)



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Physician Clearance for Deployment

US&R California Task Force 4 – 9812 Bigge Street, Oakland, CA 94603
Office - (510) 615-5872

Today's Date		Exam Date	
Person Examined (Please Print)			
Physician or Licensed Health Care Provider (Please Print)			

The above-referenced task force member has undergone a health screening evaluation.

The result of this assessment:

- ☐ Provisional clearance for deployment.
- ☐ Provisional clearance for deployment: Further review by physician is indicated.
- ☐ Further review by physician is indicated. Deployment is temporarily deferred.

☐ Final Physician clearance for deployment:

Physician Signature

Date

☐ The employee has been provided a copy of this document