PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FOR SEPARATION

1. **Policy.** Per reference (a), a complete physical examination, including a dental examination, will be given to all members within 6 months of separation, with exception of personnel authorized for discharge in absentia or those members on appellate leave. Separation physicals will be conducted within 4 weeks after receipt of separation orders where applicable, and prior to transfer of members to be separated at an activity other than their duty station.

**NOTE 1:** A physical examination should be scheduled immediately following notification to member to preclude undue delay in separation upon receipt of separation authority.

**NOTE 2:** Members should not be held on active duty awaiting HIV test results.

**NOTE 3:** If the member has had a physical examination for any other purpose within the past 5 years that met the requirements of Article 15-29 of reference (a), then a new physical examination need not be performed. Instead, the examiner may annotate on SF-600 (Rev. 6-97), Chronological Record of Medical Care, that the previous physical was reviewed for separation purposes.

2. **Members Processed for/or on Appellate Leave**

   a. Members with unsuspended punitive discharges (Bad Conduct Discharge (BCD), Dishonorable Discharge (DD), or Dismissal), who are processed for appellate leave, will be given a complete physical examination prior to commencement of appellate leave.
b. Forward completed documents from examination to command holding member's health record, if still on active duty, or to

Commanding Officer
Navy and Marine Corps
Appellate Leave Activity (NAMALA)
1325 10th Street SE Suite 303
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5070

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c. Regardless of length of appellate leave, further physical examinations are not required unless there is a significant change in member’s health condition prior to actual discharge. In such instances, it is responsibility of member to report to a uniformed service medical facility, preferably Navy, to receive an examination and to document change in his or her condition.

d. Members placed on appellate leave before a separation physical is completed may not be discharged until

(1) such physical examination is completed; or

(2) member is notified via registered mail, or in person, to complete such examination within 60 days of being so notified, and either fails to do so or fails to advise NAMALA (or current appellate leave activity) before expiration of 60-day period of difficulties in complying with deadline imposed.

NOTE: The 60-day period begins with post-mark date of letter of notification (if notified via mail). Failure by member to obtain a physical, or to keep Navy advised of his or her appellate leave address, is deemed a waiver of separation physical examination requirement.

3. If there are Medical Problems. Members who have received an unsuspended punitive discharge, unsuspended administrative discharge for misconduct, or are being transferred to Fleet Reserve/Retired List in lieu of administrative separation processing, shall not be afforded medical board action or retained on active duty for further medical treatment, regardless of separation physical determination, per reference (b). Medical examiners will note physical defects on SF 88 (Rev. 10-94), Report of Medical Examination, or SF 93 (Rev. 6-96), Report of Medical History, and command shall separate member without further medical action or finding.
EXCEPTION: If member is in immediate danger of death if not treated, or not ambulatory, hold discharge in abeyance and advise Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM), Enlisted Performance and Separations Section (PERS-4832).