



PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

**UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**  
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

**AUG 29 2022**

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP  
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS  
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Consolidated Department of Defense Coronavirus Disease 2019 Force Health  
Protection Guidance – Revision 3

Effectively immediately, the “Consolidated Department of Defense Coronavirus Disease 2019 Force Health Protection Guidance,” dated August 8, 2022, is amended as indicated in the attachment. The complete document with amendments is available at:  
<https://www.defense.gov/Spotlights/Coronavirus-DOD-Response/Latest-DOD-Guidance/>.

The amendment is necessary to provide installation commanders with the flexibility to determine Health Protection Condition levels.

Please direct any questions or comments to the following email address:  
[dha.ncr.ha-support.list.policy-hrpo-kmc-owners@mail.mil](mailto:dha.ncr.ha-support.list.policy-hrpo-kmc-owners@mail.mil).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.

Attachment:  
As stated

# SECTION 1: HEALTH PROTECTION CONDITION (HPCON) FRAMEWORK

## 1.1. HPCON FRAMEWORK.

Installations<sup>1</sup> will manage COVID-19 health protection using HPCON levels. HPCON 0 is the base level for the HPCON Framework and represents a return to normal operations.

Table 1, below, contains FHP activities installation commanders will undertake at each HPCON level, in addition to those required elsewhere in this guidance. ~~Installation commanders must change the HPCON level no later than 2 weeks after the CDC Community Level has been elevated and may change the HPCON level 2 weeks after the CDC Community Level has been decreased.~~ Installation commanders may deem it necessary to take additional precautions for select personnel and medically vulnerable populations (e.g., those who are elderly, have underlying health conditions or respiratory diseases, or are immunocompromised) and are both encouraged and authorized to do so. Installation commanders may further impose additional requirements appropriate for a particular local setting, operational requirement, and/or based on transmission risk regardless of HPCON level.

## 1.3. CRITERIA FOR CHANGING HPCON LEVELS.

HPCON level determinations for COVID-19 are based on the CDC COVID-19 Community Levels reported by the CDC,<sup>2</sup> which include screening levels that make use of new case-rates and health and health care systems-related information. HPCON Levels A, B, and C correspond directly to CDC COVID-19 Community Levels of low, medium, and high community transmission, respectively.<sup>3</sup>

**Installation commanders must change the HPCON level no later than 2 weeks after the CDC COVID-19 Community Level has been elevated, unless the installation commander documents, in writing, a compelling rationale to maintain the current HPCON level after coordination with the installation Public Health Emergency Officer.**

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this guidance, a military installation is a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a Military Department or the Secretary of Defense, including any leased facility, which is located within any State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or Guam. In the case of an activity in a foreign country, a military installation is any area under the operational control of the Secretary of a Military Department or the Secretary of Defense, without regard to the duration of operational control.

<sup>2</sup> An overview of the CDC COVID-19 Community Levels is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>.

<sup>3</sup> County Community Levels are available for U.S. States and territories is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>. Find community levels by “State or Territory” and then by “County or Metro Area.” Jurisdictions which are not counties, such as the District of Columbia, also are listed under “County or Metro Area.” The Pentagon is in Arlington County, Virginia.

Installations outside the United States should utilize local community-level data, if available, in setting HPCON levels. Otherwise, installation commanders should consider consulting country-level data for their HN and case-rate information available from the CDC at: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#global-counts-rates> and the World Health Organization at <https://covid19.who.int/>. Other sources of data on which installation commanders may rely include academic institutions if such HN data is inaccessible.<sup>4</sup>

Elevation to HPCON D should be based on the determination that there is substantial loss of medical capabilities in the local community. The factors listed in Table 1, below, must be considered when determining whether to move to or from HPCON D.

~~Table 1, below, includes FHP measures that installation commanders may undertake at each HPCON level, in addition to those required elsewhere in this guidance.~~

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<sup>4</sup> Note: local areas within a country may experience very different COVID-19 case rates than country-specific data.