

## *Just the Facts...*

### *Bloodborne Pathogens – Immunizations and Medical Surveillance*

#### **Standard immunizations**

Immunizations for mortuary affairs personnel should include, as a minimum-

- Those specified for active-duty personnel in AR 40-562
- Hepatitis B
- Tetanus

#### **Other immunizations**

The local preventive medicine authority may determine the need for other immunizations-

- When applicable for the mission or theater of operations.
- When unusual circumstances or threats suggest that personnel may be exposed to biological (infectious) hazards for which standard immunizations provide inadequate protection.

*NOTE: Before modifying the standard immunization regimen, the local preventive medicine authority may consult the following to clarify the nature and level of the infectious threat and available preventive measures:*

Chief, Operational Medicine Division  
U.S. Army Research Institute of Infectious Diseases  
Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5011  
Commercial (301) 619-6045, DSN 343-6045

Disease Control Consultant  
Office of The Surgeon General  
ATTN: HQDA (DASG-PPM-NC)  
5109 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3258  
Commercial (703) 681-3160, DSN 761-3160

#### **Medical surveillance for individuals**

There is no special medical surveillance technique or schedule for mortuary affairs personnel. Standard medical surveillance practices include:

- Screening for tuberculosis by tuberculin skin test (TST) per AR 40-5, para. 4-3. The local preventive medicine authority may increase the frequency of any screening as mission considerations suggest per AR 40-5, para 4-3h.
- Periodic screening for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) per AR 600-110.
- Periodic review of immunization status to maintain unit readiness for deployment per AR 600-8-1 and AR 600-8-101.
- Periodic (fifth birth anniversary) history and physical exam per AR 40-501 and AR 40-5.

#### **Medical surveillance data for the population**

To allow health care providers to obtain and study medical surveillance data on the entire population of mortuary affairs personnel, personnel should provide their job title to the health care provider when receiving care.

#### **Routine health care**

- Access of all mortuary affairs personnel to routine health care through the sick call process is necessary to medical surveillance.
- Confidential medical evaluation and follow-up must be immediately available for personnel reporting an exposure incident.

For further details, see USACHPPM TG 190.