

AFSC 44U4, Staff
 AFSC 44U3, Qualified
 AFSC 44U1, Entry

★OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

(Changed 31 Oct 23)

1. Specialty Summary. Administers occupational medicine program; provides urgent and non-urgent outpatient medical care to authorized DoD affiliated personnel and selected active-duty personnel with special standards of medical qualification. Evaluates working environments to detect and control health hazards and prevent disease and injury within the work environment. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260100.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

2.1. Provides occupational medicine clinical and administrative support. Maintains a program dedicated to job related outpatient clinical services and workplace safety. Schedules activities for Occupational Medicine Clinic and assigns medical technicians. Determines need for, and advises on kind and quality of, medical supplies and equipment. Coordinates patient referral to other medical providers and families. Manages return to work programs and surveillance examination requirements as determined by federal law. Establishes procedures to identify occupational hazards, to notify appropriate agencies of occupational disease or injuries, and to investigate job related injuries and illnesses. Serves as liaison with federal, state, and local agencies in matters related to occupational medicine.

2.2. Directs preventive medicine activities. Directs health education and control measures for preventable diseases and injuries. Identifies occupational medicine research needs. Develops and implements research projects to control communicable and preventable diseases. Provides guidance on nutrition, food service sanitation, water supply safety, sewage and waste disposal, immunizations, and other community health issues.

2.3. Advises medical staff on occupationally unique exposures, patient management and treatment. Provides medical advice and guidance to bioenvironmental engineering, public health, and other organizations.

2.4. Directs and provides occupational medicine support. Determines frequency of and space for occupational medicine exams required by federal regulations and workplace exposures. Develops and maintains professional standards for occupational illness and injury care using AHCPR, ACOEM, or other professional society guidelines as appropriate. Advises line management on workers' fitness for duty according to 5 CFR, Part 339. Provides recommendations to Department of Labor on workers' compensation claims, and to the Social Security Administration regarding disability retirement applications. Attends Federal Employee Compensation Act (FECA) working groups as required. Reviews occupational injury and illness data obtained from other facility care providers.

3. ★Specialty Qualifications:

3.1. Knowledge. Fulfillment of education and experience requirements satisfies this requirement.

3.2. Education. For entry into this specialty, it is mandatory to possess a Doctor of Medicine degree or a doctor of osteopathy degree from an approved school of medicine or osteopathy, a Master's degree or equivalent in public health, and complete 1 year of graduate medical education in a clinical specialty at a hospital acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF.

3.3. Training. Not used.

3.4. Experience. For award of AFSC 44U3, completion of a residency in occupational medicine acceptable to the Surgeon General HQ USAF, or board certification in Occupational Medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine is mandatory.

3.5. Other. The following are mandatory:

3.5.1. For entry and retention of AFSC 44U1, current enrollment in an occupational medicine residency program acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF.

3.5.2. For award and retention of AFSCs 44U3/4:

3.5.2.1. ★Must obtain and maintain clinical privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable (or be immediately eligible for said privileges if assigned to a non-clinical position).

3.5.2.2. A state license to practice medicine.

3.5.3. ★For retention of AFSCs 44U3/4, must not have a revocation of privileges or permanent and substantial reduction, restriction, or denial of privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable.