

OHIO MILITARY RESERVE



Regulation 40-2

**MEDICAL
FITNESS
STANDARDS
FOR THE
ISSUE OF
PROTECTIVE
MASKS**

Headquarters, Ohio Military Reserve
Office of the Surgeon General,
1000 Lawrence Road
Camp Perry Training Site
Port Clinton, Ohio
43452-9578

01 March 1999

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**Medical Fitness Standards for the
 Issue of Protective Masks**

By Order of the Governor:

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Applicability. This regulation is applicable to all OHMR personnel and all personnel under the command and control of the OHMR.

Supplementation. Supplementation of this regulation and establishment of command and local policies are prohibited without prior written approval from the Surgeon General, OHMR-SU.

Suggested Improvements. Suggested improvements which may be considered for this regulation should be forwarded in writing to the proponent agency of this regulation, the Office of the Surgeon General, OHMR-SU, Camp Perry Training Site, 1000 Lawrence Avenue, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452-9578.

Summary. This Regulation sets forth policy and guidance on physical standards for the issue of military and civilian protective masks.

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Section 1
 Introduction

1-1. Purpose
 This regulation prescribes policies, responsibilities, and procedures for the issue of protective masks, military models, M17 series, M24/25 series, MCU-2 series, and any other military or civilian designed masks.

1-2. Objectives
 The objective of this regulation is to provide standards for users of protective masks which will preclude individuals with medical or physical defects which would compromise the health and well-being of themselves or others, or would prejudice the interests of the State of Ohio.

1-3. Medical Classification

Individuals evaluated under the medical fitness standards contained in this regulation and in OHMR 40-1 will be reported as indicated:

a. Medically acceptable. Medical examiners or doctors will report as "medically acceptable" all individuals who meet the fitness standards for protective mask and related equipment use. Individuals will not be accepted on a provisional basis.

b. Medically unacceptable. Medical examiners or doctors will report as "medically unacceptable" any individual that possess any medical or physical defect that would be detrimental to the welfare of the individual or others. A permanent "medically unacceptable" determination may only be made by a qualified medical examiner or doctor. A temporary "medically unacceptable" determination may be made by the individual's commander, immediate supervisor or the equipment issuing authority.

1-4. Waivers

a. Medical fitness standards will not be waived by medical examiners, doctors or individuals.

b. Individuals found medically acceptable will sign a statement of assumed risk acknowledging they assume complete responsibility for the inspection and safe use of any protective mask or related equipment issued to them and waive all rights to recourse resulting from damages which may arise.

Section 2

Medical Fitness Standards for Use of Protective Masks

2-1. Scope

This section describes the medical and physical conditions which are causes for a "medically unacceptable" determination.

2-2. Conditions

Any of following conditions are cause for a "medically unacceptable" determination:

a. contagious or infectious diseases, or wounds, which could contaminate protective masks or equipment;

b. medical conditions or physical defects which could cause harm to the individual using a protective mask or equipment by compromising the effectiveness of such equipment;

c. psychological conditions, such as severe claustrophobia, which impairs an individual's ability to safely use protective masks or equipment;

d. any medical condition or physical defect which would endanger the individual un-

der the extreme stress to the body which occurs during prolonged use of protective masks or equipment;

e. performance of duties in the military environment would aggravate existing medical condition or physical defect;

f. failure or inability to satisfactorily complete required NBC training due to medical, physical or psychological reasons.

Section 3

Health History and Physical Examination

3-1. Health History

Personnel with medical problems such respiratory, cardiac or any other critical condition must have written documentation from their personal physician, updated annually, stating they are capable of operation under MOPP (Mission Oriented Protective Posture - the use of protective mask and overgarments) for an extended period of time. This is an individual's personal responsibility. This document will be filed in the individual's Military Personnel Records Jacket (MPRJ) on the right hand side and above the divider.

3-2. Physical Examination

Personnel over the age of 45 years will have a biannual physical examination by their personal physician at no expense to the State. Documentation of the examination will state that they are capable of operation under MOPP (Mission Oriented Protective Posture - the use of protective mask and overgarments) for an extended period of time. This is an individual's personal responsibility. This document will be filed in the individual's Military Personnel Records Jacket (MPRJ) on the right hand side and above the divider.

Section 4

Corrected Vision

4-1. Corrective Lenses

Individuals requiring corrective lenses will obtain at their own expense mask inserts or sealable field eyeglasses.

4-2. Contact Lenses

The wear of any type of contact lenses with a protective mask is strictly prohibited.

4-3. Surgically Corrected Vision

Individuals who have had vision correcting surgery and have completed the healing process will not be restricted based on this condition.