

# Training the Army Audiologist (Military, GS, and Contract)

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# Problem

- Inconsistent policies/actions within U.S. Army, installations, and audiologists.

Why?

- Limited experience/mentorship
  - New audiologist
- Not staying current with changes
  - The rest of us
- Pressure from Soldiers



# Mission

- Develop a training document
  - Establish a common knowledge base
  - Train new audiologist (Mil, GS, and Cont)
  - Help seasoned audiologist stay current
  - Help us understand the rest of the Army (TRADOC, FORSCOM, Research, etc.)



# Solution

- Manual for ROCC Operations
  - Based on collective experience
  - Living document (it will change)
  - Addresses each element of the AHP
- Scenario Based Training
  - To help you apply knowledge/training



# Examples

- HR Classification
- MEDPROS Tracking
- Physical standards
- Waivers
- SPRINT
- MMRB

# Examples

- VA testing
- Hearing Protection
- Site Inspections
- Unit Hearing Officer
- Working with Leaders (Div Surg)
- OSHA reportable hearing loss



# Test Your Knowledge





# Scenario 1

Situation: You are conducting readiness testing on a unit prior to their deployment.

Question: A soldier is referred for profile testing. DOEHRS indicated H-3 profile needed but your testing places him in an H-2 profile status. What do you do?





# Scenario 1

- Issue the H-2 profile
- Update MEDPROS
- Enter your data manually into DOEHRS to reflect the H-2 profile status.
- Ensure the Soldier has proper HPDs.





# Scenario 2

Situation: You are conducting clinical testing

Question: A Soldier wants to know if he meets the hearing requirements for Ranger Training. What do you do?





## Scenario 2

- You inform him that if he has a H-1 or H-2 profile that he will meet the standard.
- You look at his current audio to see if he meets the standard as outlined in AR 40-501.
- You look at his current audio to see if he meets the standard as outlined in DA Pam 40-501.
- You inform him that, while there is a standard, everyone gets a waiver and he will be fine.





# Scenario 3

Situation: A recruiter brings you a new recruit to test. The recruit has hearing loss and the recruiter is trying to request a waiver.

Question: Which of the following statements are true?





# Scenario 3

- H-3 profile with 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on the SPRINT - waiverable
- H-3 profile with AI of 78 or higher using the Count-The-Dot method - waiverable
- H-2 profile with severe hearing loss in one ear and the other ear is normal – waiverable
- H-3 profile with no diagnostic testing (only MEPS testing) – waiverable





# Scenario 4

Situation: You are conducting diagnostic testing on individuals who recently were found to have an STS. You need to determine who has an OSHA RHL.

Question: Which of the following hearing losses will be reported as an OSHA reportable hearing loss (RHL)?





# Scenario 4

- Military STS from combat.
- Military STS from a motor pool accident
- Military STS from hunting ducks
- Civilian STS from recreational activities
- Civilian STS from occupational exposure as a fire fighter
- Civilian STS from an artillery range accident

Military personnel do not have their hearing loss reported to OSHA.  
Hearing loss from uniquely military operations are also not reported to OSHA.





# Scenario 5

Situation: You are conducting diagnostic testing on individuals who recently were found to have an STS. You need to determine who needs a DA 285.

Question: Which of the following losses requires a DA 285?





# Scenario 5

- Military STS from combat
- Military STS from a motor pool accident
- Military STS from hunting ducks
- Civilian STS from recreational activities
- Civilian STS from occupational exposure as a fire fighter
- Civilian STS from an artillery range accident

A DA 285 is not required for combat related loss or for civilian personnel





# Scenario 6

Situation: You are conducting readiness testing at a TRADOC basic training site. The population tested are IET (initial entry training) Soldiers just starting their in-processing for basic training.

Question: A Soldier is seen with an H2 hearing loss, but has a waiver for the hearing loss. Your hearing technician looks in the ear and visualizes a perforated eardrum. What should happen next?





# Scenario 6

- Refer the receptee to the PA at sick call for further care.
- Send him away and inform them that the perforation will heal in its own time.
- Refer the receptee directly to ENT for evaluation and further processing.
- Complete a diagnostic work up to confirm perforation and degree of hearing loss, then refer to ENT for evaluation. Soldier will likely be separated from service.

**A perforated eardrum is a disqualifying condition IAW AR 40-501. While an active duty soldier can have a perforation and remain in the Army, a new recruit cannot. Complete a diagnostic evaluation for the ENT to include in his consult and write-up for the EPTS board.**

# Leadership Responsibilities

- Approved by Consultant/Senior Leaders
- Available on website
  - (www.-----.mil)
- Updated as needed



# Your Responsibilities

- Read it - Know it - Do It
- Submit your
  - Ideas
  - Questions
  - Scenarios
  - Recommendations
  - Etc.



# Questions

