



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
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MEMORANDUM FOR HQ AFMC/SGP ANG/SGP HQ AFRC/SGP
HQ AETC/SGP HQ AIA/SG HQ AMC/SGPA
HQ AFSPC/SG HQ ACC/SGPA HQ PACAF/SGPA
HQ USAFE/SGPA HQ AFSOC/SGPA HQ USAFA/SGP
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USAFSAM/CC 11 MDG/SG

FROM: AFMOA/SGZA
110 Luke Avenue, Room 405
Bolling AFB, DC 20332-7050

SUBJECT: Nasal Steroids and Nasal Cromolyn Sodium Use in Aviators

Effective immediately, the attached amendments to the medical standards for aviators are to be implemented. The use of topical nasal steroids and nasal cromolyn in the treatment of mild allergic and nonallergic rhinitis will no longer require waiver action. The requirement for 7 to 10 calendar days of observation following initiation of these agents remains in effect. Current guidance already allows for waiver for use of specific oral medication, loratidine (Claritin) and fexofenadine (Allegra) and does not change.

These standards will be incorporated into the upcoming revision of AFI 48-123, Medical Examination and Standards, in Attachment 7.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my POCs, Col Dan Eldredge or SMSgt Tony Labonte, AFMOA/SGOA, 110 Luke Avenue, Room 405, Bolling AFB, DC 20332-7050, DSN 297-4200.

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Chief, Physical Standards
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Attachment:
Medical Standards

cc:
HQ AFIA/SGP
311 HSW/CC

AMENDMENTS TO AFI 48-123
(effective 31 May 2001)

Paragraph A7.2.1.1. is amended to read: **“Allergic rhinitis, unless mild in degree and considered unlikely to limit the examinee’s flying activities. Waiver is not required if symptoms are controlled with topical medication alone. Waiver is considered if symptoms require desensitization therapy and/or approved oral medication for control.”**

Paragraph A7.2.1.2. is amended to read: **“Chronic nonallergic or vasomotor rhinitis, unless mild and not associated with eustachian tube dysfunction. Waiver is not required if symptoms controlled by topical medication alone. Waiver is considered if symptoms require approved oral medication for control.”**

Paragraph A7.31.5.16 in section A7.31.5 “Maintenance medication requiring waiver”, is amended to read: **“Claritin (loratidine) and Allegra (fexofenadine) for the control of seasonal allergic rhinitis.”** The reference to nasal steroids is deleted from paragraph A7.31.5.16 and new paragraph A7.31.4.17 in section A7.31.4., “Medication prescribed by flight surgeon which may be used without removal from flying duties once the potential for idiosyncratic reaction has been excluded” will read: **“Nasal steroids or cromolyn nasal spray for control of mild allergic rhinitis, nonallergic or vasomotor rhinitis. Observation for control of rhinitis (usually 7 to 14 calendar days) is required.”**