

## APPENDIX B

# COMBAT LIFESAVER

### B-1. Introduction

This is an introduction to the combat lifesaver and the combat lifesavers course. Direct any questions on enrollment to the Army Institute for Professional Development, Newport News, VA. Direct any questions on the subject matter content to the Commandant, Academy of Health Sciences, US Army, ATTN: HSHA-TII, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6100.

### B-2. Role of the Combat Lifesaver

*a. The AirLand Battle doctrine* was developed for a widely-dispersed, rapidly-moving battlefield. Battlefield constraints will limit the ability of medical personnel to provide immediate, far forward care. Therefore, a plan was developed to provide the needed additional care to combat soldiers. Part of this plan is the combat lifesaver.

*b. The combat lifesaver is a bridge* between the self-aid/buddy aid training provided all soldiers and the medical training given to the combat medic. The combat lifesaver is given additional first-aid training and training in selected medical tasks (such as initiate an intravenous infusion and provide initial care to a soldier suffering from battle fatigue).

*c. The combat lifesaver is a nonmedical soldier* trained to provide emergency care as a secondary mission. He does not replace the combat medic. The primary mission of the combat lifesaver is his combat mission. Normally, one member of each squad, team, or crew will be trained as a combat lifesaver. The combat lifesaver will provide care to members of his squad, team, or crew as the mission permits. When he has no combat mission to perform, the combat lifesaver may provide limited care for casualties and assist the combat medic.

### B-3. Training the Combat Lifesaver

A correspondence course has been developed for training both active duty and reserve component personnel. The course is offered only in the group study mode. Classroom instruction is provided by qualified instructors selected by the battalion commander or battalion/squadron surgeon. Students who successfully complete the written and

performance tests will receive promotion points and be certified as a combat lifesaver. The course consists of student subcourse texts, student examination, and an instructor's manual.

### B-4. Administering the Combat Lifesaver Course

*a. Equipment and Supplies.* Arrange for equipment and supplies as early as possible. The purchase of some items, such as intravenous infusion trainers and rescue breathing manikins, may be required. The local Training and Audiovisual Support Center (TASC) may have these items available. Training items will not be provided by either the Institute for Professional Development (IPD) or the Academy of Health Sciences, US Army.

*b. Enrollment.* Request for enrollment must be made to IPD on DA Form 145. Separate DA Forms 145 are used to enroll the students and the instructors. A roster containing the names, rank, SSN, and component of the students must be attached to the DA Form 145. Enrollment request should be sent to IPD six weeks prior to beginning the course. Information for enrollment is in DA Pamphlet 351-20.

*c. Facilities.* Reserve facilities well in advance. The facilities should allow clear observation of demonstrations and provide room for student practice. Handwashing devices are required.

*d. Course Material.* All course material will be sent from IPD. Check all material carefully. The introductory material will list the equipment needed and procedures for teaching, testing, retesting, and dropping students.

*e. Preparation.* Each student is issued the subcourses two weeks before classes begin. This gives the student time to study the subcourses. Students should also be provided materials such as dressings to practice tasks during the preparation time.

*f. Conduct of the Course.* The classroom portion of the CLS course is a 3-day program. Soldiers who successfully complete the course are certified as combat lifesavers.

*g. Record of Certification.* Certification of the combat lifesaver training completion is forwarded in accordance with DA PAM 351-20 for annotation on service members DA Form 2-1, items 17 and 19. Certificates of training will be issued at unit level (IPD will not issue these certificates).

*h. Recertification.* Recertification of each combat lifesaver must occur annually at unit level. Course material provided by IPD for the initial combat lifesaver course may be reproduced and used in recertification training/testing. It is recommended that recertification consist of both hands-on and written testing. Recertification does not require the 3-day course training. Service members must ensure that their DA Form 2-1, items 17 and 19 are updated annually, or as the recertification occurs. It is the responsibility of the S1 to ensure that personnel matters concerning the combat lifesaver program are resolved, NOT THE MEDICAL PLATOON LEADER.

*i. Aidbags.*

(1) Each certified combat lifesaver will be issued a combat lifesaver aidbag. The aidbag will be packed in accordance with the prescribed packing list and will be secured as a sensitive item (for example, weapon or night vision devices) at unit

level. The aidbags will be issued to the combat lifesaver only upon deployment (training or actual).

(2) It is the responsibility of each combat lifesaver to ensure that—

- His aidbag is stocked in accordance with prescribed packing list.
- All stocked items are serviceable.
- Items have not exceeded their expiration date.

(3) Stockage items for the combat lifesaver aidbag will be requested through unit supply channels, NOT THE AID STATION.

(4) Aidbag control is the commander's responsibility. Medical platoon personnel do not share this responsibility.

(5) If a combat lifesaver fails recertification, he will not be issued an aidbag.

**B-5. Medical Equipment Set**

The combat lifesaver medical equipment set is a CTA 8-100 item and can be requested through the DMSO.