



CCD 121.01
EFFECTIVE DATE: 16 July 2020

By Order of the Secretary of Health and Human Services:

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SUBJECT: Titles

1. PURPOSE: This Directive establishes the category titles of officers of the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service (Corps) other than medical officers. It also sets forth the conditions under which officers may use specialty designations and military titles.
2. APPLICABILITY: This Directive applies to all members of the Regular Corps and the Ready Reserve Corps.
3. AUTHORITY
 - 3-1. [42 U.S.C. § 206\(b\)](#), "Assignment of officers"
 - 3-2. [42 U.S.C. § 207\(b\)](#), "Grades, ranks, and titles of commissioned corps"
 - 3-3. [42 U.S.C. § 209\(a\)](#), "Appointment of personnel"
 - 3-4. [42 U.S.C. § 210b\(a\)](#), "Professional categories"
 - 3-5. [42 U.S.C. § 216](#), "Regulations"
4. PROPONENT: The proponent of this Directive is the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
5. SUMMARY OF REVISIONS AND UPDATES: This is the first issuance of this Directive within the electronic Commissioned Corps Issuance System (eCCIS) and replaces Commissioned Corps Personnel Manual (CCPM) CC43.0.1, "Titles," dated 1 October 1999. This version:
 - 5-1. Extends applicability to the Ready Reserve Corps.

6. POLICY: It is the policy of the Corps:
 - 6-1. Category Titles of Officers Other Than Medical Officers.
 - a. The category titles of officers, other than medical officers, in the junior assistant, assistant, senior assistant, full, and senior grades, shall be “dental surgeon,” “nurse officer,” “engineer officer,” “scientist,” “environmental health officer,” “veterinary officer,” “pharmacist,” “dietitian,” “therapist,” or “health services officer.”
 - b. That the category titles of officers, other than medical officers, in the director grade shall be the term “director” preceded by the term “dental,” “nurse,” “engineer,” “scientist,” “environmental health,” “veterinary,” “pharmacist,” “dietitian,” “therapist,” or “health services.”
 - c. The title of officers, other than medical officers, in the grade of Assistant Surgeon General shall be “Assistant Surgeon General,” except that following such grade designation, there shall be added a parenthetical identification such as “dental,” or “engineer.”
 - 6-2. Designation of Specialties. Scientist officers and other officers having generally descriptive titles, in using their titles in correspondence outside the Department and in the program of scientific meetings, may designate their specialties in parentheses following their names and titles, as, for example, Richard Roe, Senior Scientist (Entomologist).
 - 6-3. Military Titles. A Corps officer may use the naval title of rank corresponding to his/her grade for identification purposes when in uniform and in official correspondence, as, for example, Richard Roe, Commander, USPHS.
7. RESPONSIBILITIES:
 - 7-1. The Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH) is responsible for establishing Corps policies related to titles.
 - 7-2. The Surgeon General is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Corps. The SG is responsible for establishing Personnel Operations Memorandums (POM) through the CCIS.
 - 7-3. Officers are responsible for complying with orders of the ASH, Surgeon General and their administrative chain of command.
8. HISTORICAL NOTES: This is the first issuance of this Directive within the eCCIS.
 - 8-1. CCPM CC46.0.1, “Titles,” dated 1 October 1999.