



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

MCCS

19 MAY 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MEDCOM MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS

SUBJECT: Mandatory Use of TapRoot® and Root Cause Analysis (RCA) Submission Requirements

1. Reference: US Army Medical Command (MEDCOM) Regulation 40-41, Medical Services, The Patient Safety Program, 14 Jan 02, enclosed.
2. Effective 1 Apr 06, all Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) must use the current TapRoot® software for all Root Cause Analysis (RCA). Standardization will enable aggregation of data, accurate corporate analysis, trending, and tracking of system changes and process improvement to improve patient safety. This performance improvement tool, purchased by DoD, has the capability to report incidents, analyze root causes, generate reports, develop corrective actions, track corrective actions, and validate the effectiveness of the corrective actions.
3. Submission requirements:
 - a. Each MTF will forward a draft RCA using the TapRoot® Program to their Regional Medical Command and US Army MEDCOM Patient Safety Center no later than five working days prior to the JCAHO submission deadline.
 - b. The MEDCOM Patient Safety Center will review and provide feedback to MTFs within 48 hours after receipt of the RCA.
 - c. MTFs will submit a final copy of the RCA to JCAHO and forward a copy with any revisions to the RMC Patient Safety Officer and the MEDCOM Patient Safety Center.
 - d. The MEDCOM Patient Safety Center will coordinate TapRoot® education.
4. This memorandum is interim guidance pending a revision to MEDCOM Regulation 40-41.
5. The point of contact for this memorandum is MAJ Robert Durkee, MEDCOM Patient Safety Center, at (210) 221-6622, DSN 471-6622, or Robert.Durkee@amedd.army.mil.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl


WILLIAM H. THRESHER
Chief of Staff