

October 01, 2001

**NOAA DIVING SAFETY BULLETIN #02-01**

MEMORANDUM FOR: All NOAA Divers

FROM: David A. Dinsmore  
Director, NOAA Diving Program

Subject: Diving Physical Examination Changes

Effective this date, the following changes to NOAA diving physical requirements have been made:

**Dive Physical Frequency:**

Unless otherwise specified:

- To age forty-nine (49) - Every five (5) years
- Age fifty (50) to fifty-nine (59) - Every two (2) years
- Age sixty (60) and older - Annually

**Physical Examination Changes**

Initial Examination - All Ages, require the following:

Medical History	Complete Physical Examination	Chest X-ray
Spirometry	Hematocrit or Hemoglobin Results	Urinalysis
Vision	Body Composition Analysis (body fat)	Other testing as required

Periodic Re-examination - All Ages, require the following:

Medical History	Complete Physical Examination	Hematocrit or Hemoglobin
Urinalysis	Vision	Body Composition Analysis
Other testing as required		

Age 40 and Older, include with the above examinations:

Lipid Screening	12-Lead Resting EKG	Glucose Screening
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## **Annual Medical History Form**

All divers under the age of sixty (60) must complete and submit NOAA form 56-59, NOAA Diving - Annual Medical History Report, to the NOAA Diving Center by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. This form must be signed by the diver, but does not require a physicians signature. Failure to submit this form prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> may result in suspension of NOAA diving certification.

## **Dive Physical Forms**

All diving physicals must include:

NOAA form 56-57, NOAA Diving Program - Medical Evaluation Checklist  
Medical History form  
Medical Examination form  
Body Composition Screening form

All Wage Marines and NOAA Corps Officers must continue to use Standard Forms 88 (Report of Medical Examination) and 93 (Report of Medical History). All other NOAA and non-NOAA divers may substitute NOAA forms 56-58 (NOAA Diving Medical History Report) and 56-60 (NOAA Diving Medical Evaluation Report).