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*Captain's Call*

DoD Requires Post-Deployment Assessments

DoD is mandating post-deployment assessments for service members who deployed outside CONUS for more than 30 days to any location without a fixed medical treatment facility, including service members who have returned stateside since 2004.

Personnel are also required to be reassessed within 90 to 180 days of their return from deployment. The Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery has set up 13 clinics to handle issues Sailors returning home may have.

The reassessment of personnel can be a benefit to service members. For example, Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery personnel state that symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder don't usually start to emerge until a few months after the end of a traumatic situation. And, that's a big reason why the reassessment is required a few months after returning.

For more news from National Naval Medical Center, visit www.news.navy.mil/local/nnmc/.

