

FM 8-10-18

VETERINARY SERVICE

TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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**VETERINARY SERVICE
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PREFACE

This publication outlines the functions and operations of each veterinarian element within an area of operations (AO). It provides tactics, techniques, and procedures for veterinary support. The information provided in this publication will assist veterinary commanders and their staffs to operate efficiently in the corps and echelons above corps (EAC) arenas. It may be used by medical planners to supplement Field Manual (FM) 8-10 and FM 8-55.

The staffing and organizational structures presented in this publication reflect those established in the living table(s) of organization and equipment (LTOE) in effect as of this publication date. However, such staffing is subject to change to comply with the manpower requirements criteria outlined in Army Regulation (AR) 570-2 and can be subsequently modified by the modification table(s) of organization and equipment (MTOE).

The proponent of this publication is the United States (US) Army Medical Department Center and School (AMEDDC&S). Send comments and recommendations on Department of the Army (DA) Form 2028 directly to **Commander, AMEDDC&S, ATTN: MCCS-FCD-L, 1400 E. Grayson Street, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234-6175.**

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

Use of trade or brand names in this publication is for illustrative purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the Department of Defense (DOD).

CHAPTER 1

VETERINARY SUPPORT IN MILITARY OPERATIONS**Section I. MISSION****1-1. Veterinary Mission**

a. The veterinary service missions are—

- To conserve the fighting strength.
- To protect the health and welfare of the military community.
- To protect the financial interest of the government.

b. This is accomplished by the following functions:

(1) *Food hygiene and quality assurance.*

- Ensuring food wholesomeness, safety, hygiene, and related quality assurance standards.
- Performing food procurement examination missions in support of Class A Rations such as dairy products, red meats, poultry, bakery items, fresh fruits and vegetables, bottled water, and ice.
- Conducting basic food microbiological laboratory procedures to ensure adherence to food safety standards and to identify potential foodborne pathogens.
- Advising theater logistics units on storing subsistence to minimize threat of nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) contamination.
- Inspecting, monitoring, and submitting laboratory samples of subsistence and food-producing animals that are contaminated or suspected of being contaminated by NBC agents.
- Providing food decontamination guidance and instructions to units on decontaminating rations.

(2) *Veterinary medical care.*

- Maintaining the health of all government-owned animals in the AO.
- Providing complete veterinary care for all military working dogs (MWDs).
- Providing veterinary care to indigenous animals as directed.