

SUMMARY OF CHANGES
OPNAVINST 5350.4E
NAVY ALCOHOL AND DRUG MISUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

This instruction has been extensively revised. It also incorporates the requirements of NAVADMIN 076/18 of 29 March 2018, and aligns with Secretary of Defense Memorandum dated 26 February 2020. Major changes are as follows:

- Focused upon policy and requirements only. Execution (“how to” guidance) has been separated from policy and is available online as a series of Navy Drug and Alcohol Deterrence Operating Guides.
- Instruction rewritten for improved readability (length reduced to 66 pages vice 92 pages) and reorganized into separate alcohol and drug misuse sections.
- Incorporates the new Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) wording eliminating stigmatizing words (i.e. addiction, abuse, etc.).
- Delineates Commanding Officer's responsibility for providing and aligning access to substance use prevention programs, and developing a command climate and prevention plan that supports responsible substance use.
- Emphasizes that Commanding Officers are solely responsible to make the determination alcohol treatment failure has occurred using all available information.
- Raises the Alcohol Rehabilitation Treatment Failure criteria for any Service Member who incurs a subsequent Alcohol Incident (AI) anytime in his or her career after a period of Level 2 (Intensive Outpatient or Partial Hospitalization) or above treatment precipitated by a prior AI. This reduces the stigma and impact to a Service Member’s career when seeking.
- Delineates timelines for the command to send a Service Member to SARP for screening.
- Incorporates the Hand Held Alcohol Detection Device instruction, OPNAVINST 5350.8.
- Establishes drug testing policy for individuals who telework.
- Establishes Medical Review Process (MRP) and redefines the commands role.
- Redefines and aligns an Alcohol and Drug Control Officer’s (ADCO) role and responsibilities to a Command Resiliency Team and others as assigned.
- Cancels NPC (PERS-6) policy decision memo of 1999 for processing requests for Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) testing of urinalysis samples.
- Incorporates the transition from “abuse” to “misuse” to reduce stigma when possible per DoD recommendation.
- Integrates NAVADMIN 076/18 requirement for OPNAV N17 (in care of N173) to report all Service members who are unlawful drug users to NCIS and forwarding to the FBI for National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), as well as, report non-adjudicated cases to DNS every 6 months.
- Hemp prohibition added to align with Secretary of Defense Memorandum dated 26 February 2020 and Navy policy update.
- Incorporates procedures for accepting individuals into the Navy who present indications of pre-entry THC use, but show a potential for credible naval service.
- Incorporates information on Gambling Disorder.
- Updates the periodicity of Alcohol Drug Abuse for Managers and Supervisors (ADAMS) for Leaders training for command leadership to attend annually. Also, adds Fleet Summits and Workshops as options for refresher trainings annually.