The Purpose of ANAM

ANAM is a proven, computer-based cognitive assessment tool designed to detect the speed and accuracy of attention, memory, and thinking ability. It records individual Service Member’s performance through responses provided on a computer.

ANAM assessments are conducted prior to deployment and can be used by doctors to identify and monitor changes in brain function before and after an injury. By itself, ANAM does not diagnose any medical condition.

The results of the ANAM assessment may enable health care staff to compare a Service Member’s mental speed, accuracy of attention, memory, and thinking ability before and after an injury.

Resources:

You can obtain more information about ANAM or brain injury from:

- **Neurocognitive Assessment Branch (NCAB)**
  210-916-9220
  www.amedd.army.mil/r2d/anam.html

- **Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC)**
  1-800-870-9244
  www.dvbic.org

- **Rehabilitation and Reintegration Division**
  www.amedd.army.mil/r2d/index.html

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**Background**

“The war fighters of today survive combat trauma at greater rates than ever before due to advances in medicine, the commitment of our medical teams, and the efficiency of our patient movement system.”


These same advances demand that we focus our attention on injuries to the brain, specifically concussion.

Commanders and leaders at all levels look to the medical community for additional data to assess a Service Member’s ability to return to duty after a concussion, which can result in:

- slower reaction time
- headaches
- irritability
- memory problems
- sleep difficulty

These symptoms may result in decreased performance, and performance is critical to mission effectiveness. These problems are almost always resolved soon after the injury.

To provide the best possible support to our Service Members, DoD Health Affairs requires that, as of 23 July 2008, every Service Member complete the ANAM within the 12 months prior to deployment. This is because the best way to gauge how your brain is functioning after an injury is to know how it functioned before.

**Things a Service Member Should Know**

- ANAM is a computer-based tool that takes about 20 minutes to complete.
- The purpose of ANAM pre-deployment assessment is to collect baseline information on performance that can be used if you have an injury affecting attention, memory, or thinking ability.
- ANAM provides a personal cognitive baseline. No Service Member’s results are compared with anyone else.
- ANAM is not an IQ test; there is no pass/fail score.
- An ANAM pre-deployment baseline may help healthcare providers determine if there are changes in brain function following a concussion.
- ANAM assessment results are considered Protected Health Information and will become a part of a Service Member’s permanent medical record.
- The assessment results are stored electronically in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.