



# Reader Feedback

## No One “Resists” Torture

I am writing in response to the Federal Health Matters item, “APA Continues to Debate Role of Psychologists in Interrogations,” which appeared in the August 2008 issue of *Federal Practitioner* (page 25). In the second paragraph, the following statement regarding the DoD’s Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) programs appeared: “...the SERE program trains service members from all military branches to resist torture...”

---

*The opinions expressed in reader letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of Federal Practitioner, Quadrant HealthCom, Inc., the U.S. government, or any of its agencies.*

This is wrong and misstated. The program teaches resistance to interrogation and exploitation. No one resists torture—they endure it, they suffer from it, they are subjected to it. But these various military SERE courses do not teach service members how to resist being tortured.

—Name withheld

The editors respond:

*We thank this reader for clarifying the issue. It seems our wording in that statement was not quite precise. The intent was to convey the circumstances in which the SERE program uses certain interrogation techniques. But perhaps the term “interrogation” would have been more accurate than “torture” in this context.* ●

## Let Your Voice Be Heard!

Do you have comments on an article, department, or column in *Federal Practitioner*? Write us and add your voice to discussions of today’s important issues in federal health care.

E-mail your letter to [fedprac@qhc.com](mailto:fedprac@qhc.com) or mail it to:

Reader Feedback  
*Federal Practitioner*  
Quadrant HealthCom Inc.  
7 Century Drive, Suite 302  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-4609

For submission requirements, see our Author Guidelines online at <http://www.fedprac.com>.