



THE DENTAL CORPS BULLETIN

Special Points of Interest:

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Miscellaneous

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CHANGE OF OFFICE: CHIEF, NAVY DENTAL CORPS

01 APRIL 2020, Falls Church, Virginia

On April first, Rear Admiral Gayle Shaffer, 38th Navy Dental Corps Chief, passed the torch to Rear Admiral (select) Rick Freedman, making him the 39th Navy Dental Corps Chief.

Letters from RADM Gayle Shaffer and RDML (select) Rick Freedman [NAVY WEEKLY](#)

[DENTAL UPDATE: SPECIAL EDITION](#)

Left to right: RADM Shaffer and RDML(Sel) Freedman.



GRADUATE DENTAL EDUCATION

BRIGADIER GENERAL SHAN K. BAGBY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF THE LONG TERM HEALTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING SUPPLEMENTAL SELECTION PANEL FY2020

PROSTHODONTICS (63F)

CPT Kathleen Varley

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY (63N)

CPT Ellen Sharma

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY (63K)

CPT Matthew Keckeisen

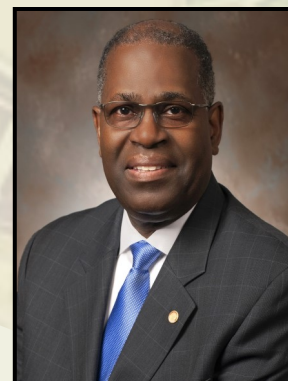
THE JOINT COMMISSION FELLOWSHIP

MAJ Brandon Jones

2020 AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION (ADA) DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Please join in congratulating Colonel (Retired) Leo Rouse as the 2020 recipient of the American Dental Associations Distinguished Service Award. This is the highest honor conferred by the American Dental Association Board of Trustees and is presented on recognition of years of service and dedication to the dental profession.

Dr. Rouse will be presented at the ADA 2020 meeting in Orlando, Florida.





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IS ARMY DENTISTRY AT RISK OF SPECIAL PAY REDUCTIONS?

The recent reductions in special pay in the Navy FY20 Special Pays Guidance has rightly caused concern among many Army dental officers. The Navy was over strength in many areas of concentration (AOC) and made the decision to right size the force by reducing the special pay of several AOCs.

Is Army Dentistry at risk of having their special pay reduced? Answer: NO.

The Army's current [FY20 Special Pay Guidance](#) does not reduce the special pay for any AOC and it increased the multi-year retention pay for some.

The Army carefully manages/titrates the number of dental officers who come on Active Duty and how many residents are train each year based on end-strength forecasts, loss and retention rates, training timeframes, recruitment information, data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and analysis from APPD. This ensures we, as a force, do not become grossly over strength in any given AOC.

To expand and retract the number of officers in an AOC, the Army adjusts the recruiting mission (how many HPSP and Direct Accessions the Army has each year) and the number of residency starts each year.

Excluding the 63A population, there are currently no Army Dentistry AOCs over strength by more than 3 officers. When you take into consideration approved retirements and separations each AOC is at or below their authorizations.

Special pay for Army Dentistry is currently not at risk of being reduced.

ARMY DENTAL LAB UPDATE

The ADL is open for business. We are still processing cases so if there is anything that has been sitting in your lab, please get it off your bench and to the ADL so when you are back in the clinic your case will be ready for delivery.

PRINTING OF 3-D PERSONAL PROTECTICE EQUIPMENT

There have been many questions regarding 3D printed masks. There is no NIOSH approval for 3D printed masks. The quality, safety, and efficacy of the designs available has not been tested and verified. 3D printing is not always precise and a slight deviation in printing could make the printed product not meet the design specifications, which would make obtaining NIOSH approval hard to maintain. The ADL will not be printing masks or face shields at this time.

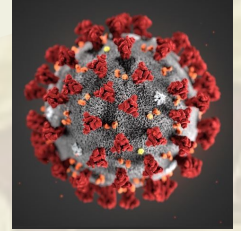
POC: COL Jennifer Sabol, jennifer.v.sabol.mil@mail.mil



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CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

FRAGOS TO HQDA EXORD 144-20, ARMY WIDE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS COVID-19



Highlights to be aware of:

- ◆ FRAGO 18: Postpone all preventative medical care and routine medical readiness activities, to include annual periodic health assessments, dental assessments and cleanings... CONTINUE imminent deployment-related medical readiness requirements, pre- and post-deployment-related health assessments, disability examinations and separation examinations.
- ◆ FRAGO 19: Mandates that all individuals on DOD installations use cloth face coverings in accordance with CDC guidelines. [CDC How To Video](#)
- ◆ FRAGO 20: Adds uniform policy guidance for wear of cloth face masks directed by FRAGO 19. [Complete Guidance.](#)

[ALARACT 029/2020](#), ARMY GUIDANCE FOR FILING PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION (PCS) AND TEMPORARY DUTY (TDY) TRAVEL CLAIM FOR SOLDIERS IMPACTED BY CORONA VIRUS 2019 (COVID-19). Due to covid-19 outbreak and stop movement travel restrictions, Soldiers and family members may experience delays and travel hardships. This message provides Soldiers and leaders with COVID-19 pay and allowances flowcharts to help identify assistance available and how to process travel claims.

[ALARACT 031/2020](#), PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE IN SUPPORT OF REQUESTS FOR ON-STATION EXTENSION AND ASSIGNMENT DEFERMENT/DELETION IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 HARDSHIPS. Procedural guidance for soldiers and officers who request on-station extensions and assignment deferments for up to one year. Eligibility: officers and enlisted scheduled to move from present to 30 September 2020.

[HQDA EXORD 164-20](#), ARMY PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST (APFT) AND ARMY COMBAT FITNESS TEST (ACFT) DURING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK (FOUO), Effective immediately, adjustments to the training and conduct of the APFT and ACFT are implemented to better support COVID-19 mitigation measures, while still ensuring the physical readiness of our Soldiers.

[DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF CLOTH FACE COVERINGS,](#)

On 05 APR 2020, The Secretary of Defense Mark Esper provided the following guidance: "Effective immediately, to the extent practical, all individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public areas or work centers ..."

The latest DoD policies can be found at <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus>

TRICARE CHANGES: As of March 31, the Department of Defense (DOD) has postponed elective procedures at military hospitals/clinics and Dental Treatment Facilities (DTF) until May 31, 2020 due to the COVID-19 outbreak. [LINK](#)

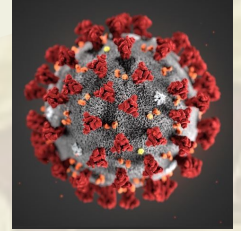


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CORONAVIRUS UPDATES CONTINUED

EVENTS

In light of restrictions put in place due to COVID-19, the following events have been cancelled/postponed:



National Capital Region Symposium, cancelled
Federal Services Dental Educators Workshop 13-16 April 2020, cancelled
Tri-Service Dental Symposium 21-23 April 2020, postponed
The Surgeon General's Consultants Workshop 20-23 April 2020, cancelled
Facebook Live with Brigadier General Shan K. Bagby and COL Brett Henson 23 April 2020, cancelled
Army Junior Leadership Course April 27- 01 May 2020, cancelled
Comprehensive Dentistry Short Course 04-08 May, cancelled
Oral and Maxillofacial Short Course 18-21 May 2020, cancelled
Iron Major's Week: cancelled
Naval Postgraduate Dental School (NPDS) remaining FY20 Continuing Dental Education courses: cancelled

A MESSAGE FROM HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND (HRC) FOR THOSE IDENTIFIED AS ON APPROVED RETIREMENT OF SEPARATION WITHIN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR

As your Dental Corps (DC) Branch team at HRC, we wanted to reach out and let you know that we are here to support you during these trying times. Whether it be as you continue the transition to your next chapter or consider remaining on Active Duty. If you are considering requesting an extension or revocation of your current approved separation we are here to assist.

If you choose the above please reach out to your career manager; LTC Tammy Fugere for Specialty Providers or MAJ John McCracken for all 63As. I am also available for discussion if you wish.

Voluntary retirements and resignations may be withdrawn or adjusted at any time prior to commencing travel pursuant to separation. Requests to withdraw or adjust an approved voluntary retirement or resignation must be submitted through command channels to HRC. In order to start this process you will need to submit a request through your transition office. They will provide a memo for your request and command signature. Once complete the Transition Center will then route it up to HRC for approval. HRC will liberally support any request from an AMEDD officer to withdraw or adjust an approved voluntary retirement or resignation to stabilize the Force in an effort to bolster Army Medicine's COVID 19 response.

DC Branch may stabilize officers requesting to withdraw or to adjust an approved voluntary retirement or resignation up to one year in year current position if requested.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we can be of any further assistance. Stay safe and healthy!

POC: COL Brett Henson, DC Branch Chief, brett.h.henson.mil@mail.mil

FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING COVID-19 AND PATIENT CARE:

COL David Olson, the Army Dentistry Infection Preventionist at: david.g.olson12.mil@mail.mil



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673rd DENTAL COMPANY AREA SUPPORT RESPONDS TO COVID-19

ARTICLE BY MAJOR JESSIE M. VALDEZ, 62nd MEDICAL BRIGADE

In the early stages of the fight against the Coronavirus (COVID-19) national pandemic, Soldiers from the 673rd Dental Company - Area Support (DCAS), 47th Combat Support Hospital, 62nd Medical Brigade (62nd MED BDE), exchanged their duty uniforms for scrubs and personal protective equipment to conduct medical evaluations, screening, and sampling procedures on Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), Washington.

The 673rd quickly established tents, transported equipment, enabling the drive-through screening and sampling station to become fully operational in under five hours.

“We received notification that we would be taking over the mission on a Tuesday afternoon”, said LTC Eric Danko, Commander, 673rd DCAS. The 673rd assumed the mission to support America’s 1st Corps and Task Force West when forces from the 56th Multifunctional Medical Battalion, 62nd MED BDE, were re-allocated to the Century Link Treatment Center in Seattle, Washington to support the COVID-19 response at that location.

“The leadership at JBLM has done a great job utilizing their medical assets to provide coverage both on and off JBLM and the surrounding area”, said MAJ Ari Cylus, 673rd DCAS Chief of Dental Operations.

In preparation to take over the mission, the 673rd staged personnel on Wednesday and equipment on Thursday. “On Thursday evening at 1900, the 56th MMB started breaking down their tents, and by midnight, we had all of our tents and equipment set up to start seeing patients at 0600 Friday morning. This real world mission validates the training our unit has been conducting during our training exercises. The Soldiers were ready with no notice to execute”, said LTC Eric Danko.



SPC Mark White, 673rd DCAS, 68E, from San Antonio, Texas, conducts a screening to determine if the individual requires a nasal swab for COVID-19 testing at JBLM, Washington, on April 1, 2020.



SPC Hongyi Wu, 673rd DCAS, 68E, from Beaumont, Texas, and SPC Uriel Bravo, 673rd DCAS, 68E, from Merced, California, collect a swab sample for additional COVID-19 testing at JBLM, Washington, on April 2, 2020.



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673rd DENTAL COMPANY AREA SUPPORT RESPONDS TO COVID-19 CONTINUED

ARTICLE BY MAJOR JESSIE M. VALDEZ, 62nd MEDICAL BRIGADE

Three teams of Soldiers are working 14-hour rotating shifts, seven days - a- week, to provide widespread evaluation and testing coverage. Working hand-in-hand with Madigan Army Medical Center providers, they screened, evaluated, and collected lab samples. Their unity of effort was crucial in helping prevent the spread of COVID-19, enabling Commanders to maintain a readiness posture.

In order to minimize contact and maintain social distancing as much as possible, vehicles pull up underneath a carport for protection from the rain, Soldiers then verify the individual's identification and collect additional information. Once the 673rd Soldier determines if the individual requires a nasal swab for sampling, the individual drives to another tent and a Soldier from the 673rd collects the sample. During the entire process, the person being screened and tested does not get out of their car.

"It's a team effort here", said 1st Sgt. Charles J. Graham, 673rd DCAS, 68E, from Gulfport, Mississippi. "Whether they (Soldiers) are a 68E, 68A, 92Y, or 74D, they've all had a good attitude and been very resilient about the whole operation. It's a great time to be part of Army Medicine."



PFC Hyelin Yang, 673rd DCAS, 68E, from Los Angeles, California (left), and SPC Nuo Ma, 673rd DCAS, 68E, from Seattle, Washington (right), record an encounter in the MHS Genesis system and print out labels for each specimen at JBLM, Washington, on April 1, 2020.



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND– EUROPE (DHC-E) UPDATE

This month we are proud to highlight some of the recent missions, achievements, special events of the DHC-E Soldiers and civilians.

STUTTGART

AFN Stuttgart- MAJ Aleksandr Baron and Dr. Delaughter, participate in a radio interview with DJ PFC Opio, in support of National Children's Dental Health Month. They discussed oral hygiene tips and techniques for children and adults and also discussed dental readiness and wellness for the Stuttgart Military Community.



MAJ Baron, Dr. Delaughter, PFC Opio



PFC Opio and MAJ Baron

ANSBACH DENTAL CLINIC

Ansbach Dental Clinic Practice Manager, SGT James Glover, worked with the American Red Cross, to host the USAG Ansbach Blood Drive. SPC Dozier, SPC Shin, SPC Roosevelt Dozier, SPC Toymeisha Patterson, PFC Kadisha Dias-Vitch, and PFC Huijing Quan volunteered to assist the Armed Services Blood Program team with handing out fliers, setting up equipment, in-processing donors, and the donation process. There were over 70 eligible donors that supported the event and an estimated 144 lives were saved or improved.

Check out the full storyboard [HERE](#).



Left to Right: SPC Woori Shin, SGT James Glover, SPC Toymeisha Patterson, SPC Roosevelt Dozier, , PFC Kadisha Dias-Vitch, and PFC Huijing Quan



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AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63D, Periodontics

ADVANCED EDUCATION IN PERIODONTICS

The U.S. Army Advanced Education Program in Periodontics is under the guidance of Director COL Robert Herold and Assistant Directors, COL Kenneth Erley, LTC (P) Tom Johnson and MAJ Jennette Obryhim. In 2019, the program published eight articles in peer-reviewed journals (Table 1), maintained 100% board certification (since 2003), and graduated four outstanding periodontists—CPT(P) Dan Phillips, CPT(P) Ryan McGary, CPT Rick Hill, and CPT Dane Swenson. In the research arena, the Army program maintains a broad portfolio of projects ranging from basic science studies to a retrospective clinical studies.

OFFICER HIGHLIGHT

COL Kenneth J. Erley is retiring from active duty in June 2020. He has served in the Army for over 22 years, culminating with five years as Assistant Program Director and Program Director at the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics. Over this period, COL Erley influenced 28 periodontics residents and graduates. One hundred percent of the eligible periodontics residents (12) trained by COL Erley are now Diplomates of the American Board of Periodontology. As a professional officer and educator, COL Erley has been an incredible mentor for junior officers and a tremendous asset for the Army Medical Department. COL Erley is a master clinician and a gifted clinical educator who positively impacted soldiers, residents, his unit, the Army Medical Department (AMEDD), and the field of periodontics in his role as Program Director. He is the recipient of the Surgeon General's A Designator and is the co-author on seven publications. During COL Erley's tenure in the periodontics program, Army residents published 18 articles in peer-reviewed journals such as the Journal of the American Dental Association, the Journal of Periodontology, and Clinical Advances in Periodontics. The Periodontics community is thankful for his many years of service and wishes him well in his future endeavors.





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AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63D, Periodontics Continued

PUBLICATIONS

Table 1. Army Periodontics publications since September 2019

Title	Journal
Decisions before incisions: technique selection for the distal wedge procedure	<i>Clin Adv Periodontics</i>
Utilizing the regional acceleratory phenomenon and dental implant anchorage for distalization and intrusion of a mesially tipped mandibular molar: a case report	<i>Clin Adv Periodontics</i>
Managing antral wall discontinuities in sinus elevation surgery	<i>Clin Adv Periodontics</i>
Fracture necrosis: a risk indicator for tooth loss	<i>JADA</i>
The tissue-supported sling suture: technique and clinical applications	<i>Clin Adv Periodontics</i>
Rational prophylactic antibiotic selection for sinus elevation surgery	<i>Clin Adv Periodontics</i>
Focus on epithelialized palatal grafts. Part 3: Methods to enhance patient comfort at palatal donor sites	<i>Clin Adv Periodontics</i>
Frequency of adequate mesiodistal space and faciolingual alveolar width for implant placement at anterior tooth positions	<i>JADA</i>

A recent publication by CPT Anthony Vargas—and a team of Tingay Dental Clinic clinicians—describes a molar-uprighting technique utilizing the regional acceleratory phenomenon and dental implant anchorage.

Pictured, a dental implant in the #19 position was used to anchor the distalization and intrusion of tooth #18, creating space for an anatomic implant-supported crown.





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AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63D, Periodontics Continued

LANAP Evolution 4 and 5 Training

LANAP Evolution 4 and 5 training consists of a review of Evolutions 1-3 and then expansion on that training.

Evolution 4 and 5 are required to be done after 6 months to 1 year of experience with the MVP-7 laser. This allows providers to have sufficient experience to knowledge on how to use the laser in order to avoid tissue trauma/damage.

Training for both areas consisted of both didactic and hands on training with live patients. Provider-students were broken down into groups of two or three with an instructor. Instructors closely monitored all facets of treatment with the laser to include, use and understanding of the laser machine, laser technique, patient interaction, etc.

Evolution 4 focused on increasing the power which allows for accomplishing the procedures in less time. Initial trainees worked with low power to help prevent unintentional injury due to overexposure. In addition, specifics were taught concerning targeted areas of the mouth that have more potential for damage and specific techniques for different areas.

Evolution 5 focused on learning about different sized fiber-optic cables that are more appropriate for different types of gingival presentation. Standard size is 3.6mm and the 2 new alternative sizes are 3.0 and 4.0. Additionally, Evolution 5 provided some information on a few adjunctive procedures as well as bio-stimulation. Four personnel completed both Evolution 4 and 5 during this training opportunity, becoming fully certified for LANAP and adjunctive procedures.



CPT Dane Swenson, MAJ Ryan McGary, Dr. Robert Gregg, LTC William Gilbert
(Founder of Millenium Technologies and co-inventor of the MVP-7 Laser)



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AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63D, Periodontics Continued

NEW IN ARMY PERIODONTICS

Periodontists have been performing esthetic crown lengthening procedures for many years. Now, we have some new techniques for enhancing esthetic outcomes for our patients. Lip repositioning procedures offer a method for reducing “gummy smile” resulting from hyperactive upper lip (top row). For patients requesting gingival depigmentation, Er:YAG laser get the job done with minimal trauma and virtually no downtime (bottom row).



Smile Baseline



Smile following esthetic crown lengthening and lip repositioning



Smile Baseline



Appearance following gingival depigmentation with an Er:YAG laser



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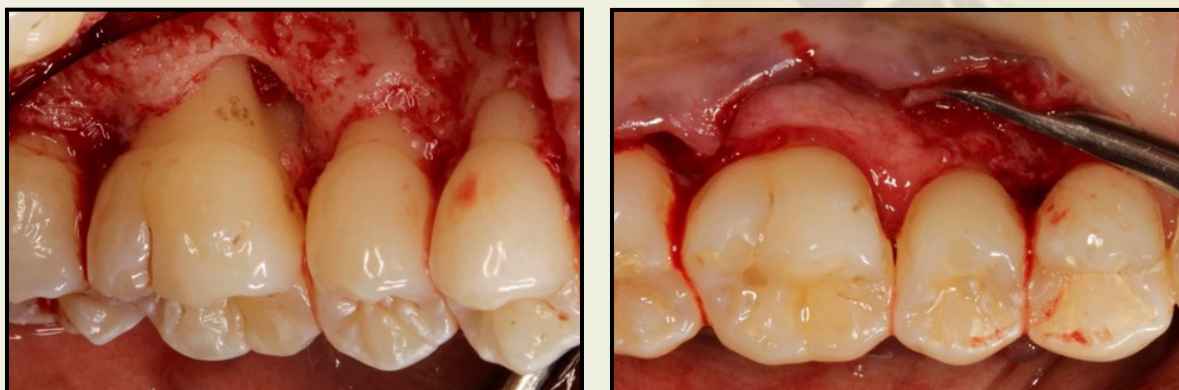
AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63D, Periodontics Continued

NEW IN ARMY PERIODONTICS

Army periodontists routinely replace non-restorable teeth in the esthetic zone using immediate implants with immediate provisionalization. The case below is an example of severe internal root resorption on tooth #9, with immediate implant and biologic provisional restoration.



Army periodontists specialize in regenerating lost periodontal tissues from periodontitis. The case below demonstrates Guided Tissue Regeneration with Bone Replacement Graft #14 mesial (initial procedure and re-entry surgery for membrane removal at postoperative week eight).





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INFECTION CONTROL CORNER

FRAGO 19 to HQDA EXORD 144-20 and Cloth Mask Use

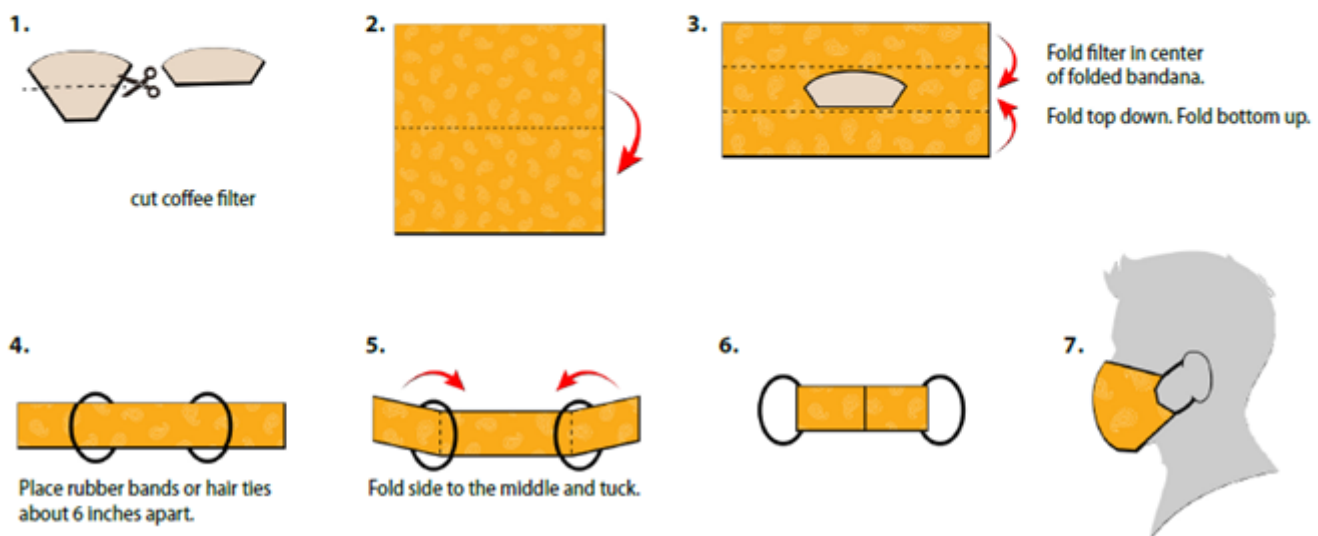
The release of both the Department of Defense Guidance on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings and FRAGO 19 to HQDA EXORD 144-20, Army Wide Preparedness and Response to Coronavirus Outbreak, mandated that all individuals on DOD installations use cloth face coverings in accordance with CDC guidelines as this will help prevent the insidious spread of COVID-19. This mandate will impact operations at the dental treatment facility for the patient and the staff. First, strongly encourage our patients to wash their hands after removing their face mask and sitting in your chair. Secondly, our own DHCP are encouraged to use cloth masks during non-patient care at the dental treatment facility in areas where personnel cannot maintain six feet of social distance such as in the breakroom or locker area. This is prudent because even though we as medical professionals have access to medical PPE, our use of cloth masks allows us to preserve limited resources during this pandemic.

Bandana Cloth Face Covering (no sew method)

Materials

- Bandana (or square cotton cloth approximately 20"x20")
- Coffee filter
- Rubber bands (or hair ties)
- Scissors (if you are cutting your own cloth)

Tutorial



For more helpful information and more guidance on Dental COVID-19 operations, please visit the following link.

COVID-19 SharePoint: <https://mitc.amedd.army.mil/sites/G357/DentalCareDelivery/COVID19/Forms/AllItems.aspx>