



The Dental Corps Bulletin

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My Experience as the 1st Special Force Group (Airborne) Dentist

By: MAJ Jeff Marrs

It is a tremendous honor and privilege to serve as the dentist for the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) [1st SFG (A)]. The 1st SFG (A) is situated in Washington State with units in Japan. Since September 11, 2001, the 1st SFG (A) personnel have played a vital role in fighting terrorism and violent terrorist organizations around the globe by participating in various operations for the DoD. From humanitarian assistance and training of indigenous forces, to combat operations, Special Forces Soldiers live up to the Special Forces motto: De Oppresso Liber, "To Free the Oppressed."

My experience as the 1st SFG (A) dentist over the last three years is based off the needs of the unit and the priorities of the Group Surgeon, which may vary from the experiences of my predecessors and my peers currently serving with the 3rd, 5th, 7th and 10th SFG (A). I was fortunate to work with three different dental technicians: SGT Tyler Labatte, SGT Terry Johnson, and currently SGT Luis Barraza. Together we developed novel systems, tools, and mechanisms to anticipate, track, and drive dental readiness to enable 1st SFG (A) to be a dental ready force during the COVID19 global pandemic and in support of operations in the INDOPACOM area of responsibility and Afghanistan. We routinely tracked DENTRIX, in MHS Genesis, MEDPROS and the Corporate Dental Application. We have developed internal 1st SFG (A) metrics, and aggressively pushed 30-60-90 day reports to the battalion surgeons and physician assistants in order to schedule and treat DRC 4, DRC 3, and pending DRC 4 Soldiers.

Critical to the 1st SFG (A) medical mission, we taught twelve quarterly Dental Non-Trauma modules for the all of the unit's Medical NCOs that culminated in their dental sustainment certification with over 540 hours of didactic and hands-on training. These modules comprised head and





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neck anatomy, dental sick call, dental anesthesia, exodontia, maxillo-mandibular fixation, and suturing. We also facilitated shadowing in clinic for several dozen Medical Sergeants.

To build credibility with our unit, we conducted daily physical training alongside the unit's operators performed airborne operations with jumps from the various platforms and fired on multiple weapon systems at various ranges. Although the COVID19 global pandemic curtailed our opportunities for operational dentistry, we did collaborate with the 673rd Dental Company (Area Support) during their field exercises to perform field dentistry.

As the last 63A to serve as a Group Dentist, I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to represent the Dental Corps in this unique operational force. For all you 63Bs interested in becoming a Group Dentist, please feel to reach out to me or any of the other Group Dentists. I would also highly encourage you to read Dick Couch's *Chosen Soldier* in order to understand your patients and the training they undertake to earn a Green Beret. If you would like a good read on the 1st SFG (A), I encourage you to pick up Jessica Donati's *Eagle Down* that chronicles one of our battalion's in Afghanistan.



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Dental Support of Veterinary Medicine

Humans are not the only species treated by the Army Dental Care system.

Army dental practices provide their teams with a number of unique experiences. One of these experiences is having the opportunity to treat Military Working Dogs (MWDs). When requested by the veterinary clinic, dental teams are encouraged to assist with the treatment of these Army team members. Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 4-02.19 describes providing essential and emergency dental care to military working dogs as an additional role for dental personnel. The Army has published Technical Bulletin, Medical (TB MED) 298 to give providers guidance on how to provide dental care of the military working dog. Collaboration between the Army veterinary and dental activities is encouraged throughout these documents.

As with any Army activity, training and exercising skills is vital to accomplishing the mission. The treatment of MWDs is no different. Dental teams may need to answer the call to treat MWDs in theater. Having the opportunity to train at residency programs or exercise skills in garrison develop proficient providers who can tackle the delivery of healthcare in theater.

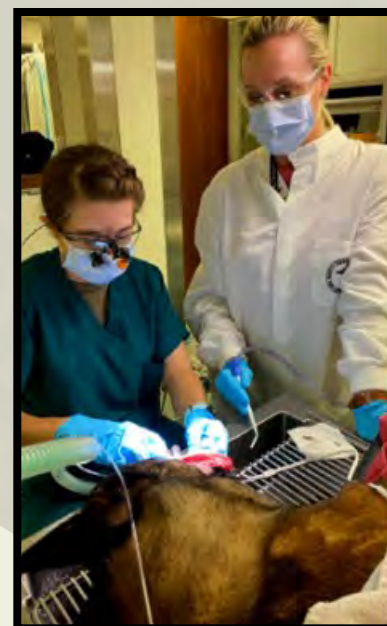


Training and exercises for MWD dental care

The Advanced Education in General Dentistry 2-year program at Fort Hood has developed a cooperative relationship with the location veterinary clinic. A fractured or diseased tooth can end a MWD's career. Residents at Fort Hood support the conservation of the fight force of MWDs by providing endodontic and restorative therapies for these warriors.

CPT Yann Rodenas, a 2021 graduate of the Fort Hood residency says, "The Army offers a unique opportunity for providers. I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with military working dogs at the two-year AEGD residency at Fort Hood. The training has prepared me to treat dental emergency for all service members, including military working dogs."

After completing training programs, it is important that dental providers are able to continue exercising their skills. The dental and veterinary teams at Fort Leavenworth are doing just that. "Our MDW had not been able to eat and wasn't himself. We diagnosed that he needed three root canals," explains CPT Tess Brunstein, a dentist at Smith Dental Clinic, Fort Leavenworth. She provided a dental examination, endodontic, and operative treatment to a MWD referred from the local veterinary clinic. The





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vetinary team sedated the MWD to facilitate the treatment that CPT Brunstein provided. “It was so rewarding to hear back from his handler several weeks after the procedure that his partner was back to his happy self and eating normally again! I’m thankful for the opportunity and experience, and to assist in helping a canine teammate to get back in the fight,” reflects CPT Brunstein. “Getting the opportunity to provide dental care to the MWD is an experience I have always wanted to be a part of as an Army Dentist.”



Providing care to MWD while deployed

Dental teams conduct training to be prepared to provide dental care in theater. Dental and veterinary teams can cross-train to provide MWD dental services. Veterinarians can train dental officers and NCOs in sedation of MWDs, while the dental team can train veterinarians on dental therapies, like exodontia. The 502nd Dental Company Area Support and veterinary colleagues crossed trained to provide serves while deployed in Kuwait.

Dental specialists can benefit from cross training as well. Preventative dental specialists, 68EX2, have specialized skills to provide preventive dental services in theater. The care they provide extends to MWDs. SGT Ulaynie Rando and SGT Antinia Graves, both preventative dental specialists, recently teamed up with the Area Support Group-Kuwait Veterinarian and 248th Medical Detachment Veterinary Service Support (MDVSS) veterinary technician to provide dental services to MWD in theater.

Collaboration to conserve the fighting strength

Collaboration between veterinary and dental teams ensure MWDs remain healthy to accomplish their mission. Conserving the fighting strength is a slogan that applies to all services members, human or dog.





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Dental Corps Officer Leadership Development Strategy

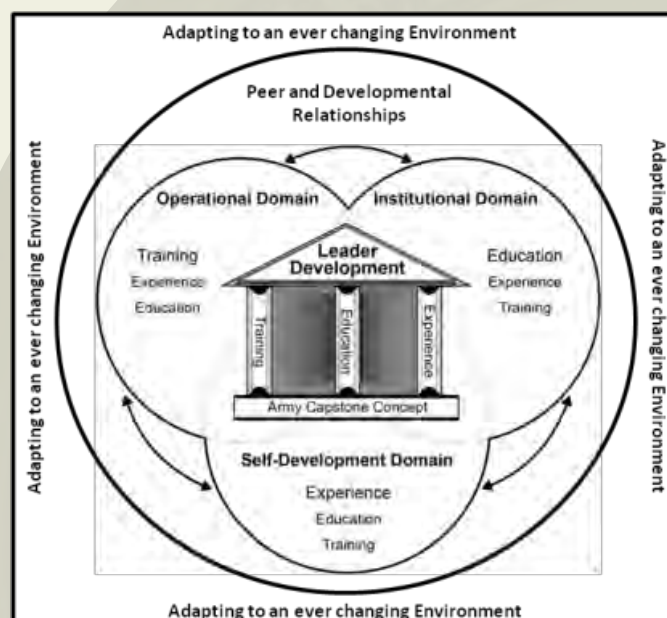
The development of leaders is an essential responsibility of every Army Soldier. The process of providing training, education, and experiences prepares leaders for higher levels of responsibility. As individuals, we must manage our assignments to ensure we get the most out of the leadership development process. The first step in managing your career is to understand the domains of the Army Leader Development Strategy.¹

The Army divides leadership development into three domains: Institutional, Operational, and Self-development Domains. The Institutional Domain is easiest to recognize. Dental school is the institutional training that provides the qualifications to become a dental officer. Professional military education (PME) is another Institutional Domain activity for leadership development in the profession of arms. The officer's educational track is Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC), Captain's Career Course (CCC), Intermediate Level Education (ILE), and Senior Service College, in progression. Leaders can then tailor their expertise by attending other courses, for example, pre-command course, Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), JMESI Healthcare Executive courses, and others.

Self-development is the leader's lifelong, individual efforts to grow. Improvement in this domain is achieved through personal activities like reading, individual study, self-assessment, and pursuit of career-related passions. The [Army Project Athena website](https://www.armyprojectathena.com), which provides learning resources and self-development surveys, is an excellent resource for leader self-development.

Finally, Operational Domain activities are the experiences you receive in your clinics. Every patient encounter is a repetition in your development as a clinician. The Operational Domain is where you apply your institutional learning and self-development to real-time, on-the-job situations.

This article briefly outlined the three domains of the Army Leadership Development Strategy. Dental Officers must seek experiences in the Operation, Institutional, and Self-Development Domains to develop as Army leaders. By understanding the Army Leadership Development Strategy, leaders can manage their careers by balancing time to activities in each domain.



Army Leader Development Model

1. Department of the Army. *Army Leader Development Strategy 2013*. (Washington, DC), 8, <https://usacac.army.mil/cac2/cal/alds.asp>

2. Center for the Army Profession and Leadership. Project Athena Leader Self-Development Tool. Last accessed 31 Jan 2022, <https://capl.army.mil/athena/#/>



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – PACIFIC UPDATE

Dental Health Activity—Korea



On December 17, 2021, 1SG Sheena Blake and SFC Nicholas Williams were inducted into the coveted Order of Medical Military Merit. Both were presented the award during the 65th Medical Brigade and MEDCOM-K's 2021 Holiday Ball in front of the distinguished guests. Inductees of the Order of Medical Military Merit are hand selected by the current members. The entirety of the career of the inductee is reviewed during the selection process. For 1SG Blake the award is just one of many capstones of her distinguished career, as she begins her transition to retirement. SFC Williams is nearing the twenty year mark and also has had a distinguished career.

Dental Health Activity—Joint Base Lewis McChord



On December 16, 2021, McClung Dental Clinic enjoyed the holidays by giving presents to local homeless children in the area. In addition, McClung celebrated the retirement of Dr. Stephen Hannon with over 30 years of federal service as an Army and GS dentist. Dr. Hannon had been instrumental with his mentorship of fellow dentists and passion to care for Soldiers in improving McClung's readiness during the year.



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – PACIFIC UPDATE

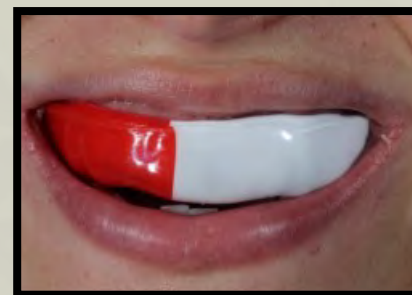
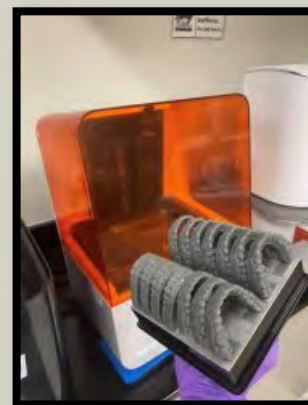
Dental Health Activity JBLM Presidio of Monterey Enters the Digital Age

By: MAJ(P) Michael Kroll

Presidio of Monterey Dental Clinic (POM DC) has been at the forefront of transitioning to the future of Army Digital Dentistry capabilities. For the past year and a half POM DC and Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) have worked to leverage digital technology to address 3 immediate needs of our population:

- Enhance the **Readiness** of our population by reducing wait times
- Increase **Quality of Care** by reducing steps that induce inconsistency through human error.
- **Standardization** communication between specialists across the organization to enhance the **Safety** of our patients.

Through the support of COL Anderson, COL Mower, and JBLM DENTAC IT Mr. Phillip Wise digital dentistry was made a priority. Currently 100% of laboratory procedures at POM DC are digitally assisted making POM one of the fully digital labs in the Army Dental Care System. Digital dentistry equipment at JBLM/POM DC was used to support the active duty community at Presidio of Monterey by providing mouth guards. CEREC Primescan and rapid model prototyping with the Formlabs 3D printer, were utilized in the fabrication of laminated custom athletic mouth guards. The event provided an opportunity with speak with our patients about common dental alveolar injuries, give a visual color image of their teeth for oral hygiene instruction, and identify class 4 patients to schedule them for examinations. Many patients left excited about their encounter and about the “scanner” at the dental clinic. Helping patients become advocates for their own oral health is important. Getting patients excited to come see the dentist is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the POM military personnel for making our after-hours event possible. A special thanks to the entire staff of POM DC for promoting the world class care we provide for our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines.





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – PACIFIC UPDATE

Dental Health Activity—Alaska

On December 13, 2021, Dental Health Activity-Alaska at Fort Wainwright conducted Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills training. The focus was on tasks specific to the M4 carbine. Training was conducted by two Soldiers from Charles Company 1-25 Brigade Support Battalion of 1-25 Striker Brigade Combat Team.



Featured in pictures are MAJ Hill (left) and SGT Gorman (right). Both are in the process of disassembly and assembly of the M4, which is part of the Maintain an M4-Series Carbine task. Photos were taken by MSG Niemotko

On December 14, 2021, Dental Health Activity-Alaska at Fort Wainwright conducted an NCO/Soldier of the Month Board, which consisted of an oral board. SSG Williams won the title of the NCO of the Month, and SPC Estrada won the title of the Soldier of the Month. Both Soldiers were asked over 50 question each on topics such as Army leadership, counseling, promotions & reductions, uniform wear and appearance, SHARP, MEO, mission command, and few other. Both Soldiers will compete at the NCO/Soldier of the Quarter Competition in April 2022.

Featured in pictures above are SSG Williams Matos (left) and SPC Estrada (right). Photos were taken by MSG Niemotko





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – PACIFIC UPDATE

Dental Health Activity—Japan

On November 18-19, 2021, DENTAC-Japan hosted the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF). Dental lectures and clinical observations to include CAD-CAM & 3D Printer utilization. DENTAC Japan and the JGSDF residents participate in the EST Range at Base Sagamihara and a 3 mile Fun Run on Camp Zama.





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – CENTRAL UPDATE

Dental Health Activity - Fort Hood

Dental Specialists go Green to Gold

SPC Lindaria Mitchell (top right) from Albany, Ga joined the Army as a Dental Specialist in 2017. Her first duty Station was Baumhold Dental Clinic in Germany. She attended the dental laboratory school and earned the N5 ASI as dental laboratory specialist in April 2021. SPC Mitchell arrived to Fort Hood DENTAC in June 2021, where she was assigned to Billy Johnson Dental Clinic. She applied and was selected to the Green to Gold Program this year. She is determined to maximize her military opportunities and further her education while serving on active duty. Her goal is to take the experiences she has gained as an enlisted Soldier to her future leadership roles as an Army officer.



SGT Grace Gitau (bottom right) believes that joining the United States Army has been the most significant decision in her life. She moved from Kenya to the U.S. to provide for her family and to improve the life of her family back in Kenya. She has taken full advantage of the Army Tuition Assistance program in order to earn her Associates degree. In the short ten months that SGT Gitau has been assigned to Fort Hood DENTAC, she successfully graduated Basic Leaders Course, earned her promotion to SGT, attended the FAST class improving her General Technical score, and was recently accepted into the Green to Gold Program. Applying for the Green to Gold Program has been SGT Gitau's goal from the moment she joined the Army. This program will give her the opportunity to complete her Bachelors in Cyber Security and continue to serve as an officer. Her son and family are her greatest inspiration. She believes as an officer, she will be a positive influence that will prepare the Army of today to win in the complex world of tomorrow.





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – CENTRAL UPDATE

Dental Health Activity - Fort Huachuca

On Feb. 2, 2022, COL Stefan Olpinski, Dental Health Command-Central (DHC-C) Commander, and LTC Yong Kim, Fort Huachuca Dental Clinic Command (DCC) Commander, presented the Army Safety Health Management System (ASHMS) Star of Excellence to the Fort Huachuca DCC after completing the DoD SMSCX ASHMS Final Assessment. This award demonstrates Fort Huachuca DCC's commitment to safety at all levels and recognizes the organization as a leader in Safety and Occupational Health. Passing the assessment was a team effort with leader and employee involvement in a culture of safety. Achieving the Star of Excellence is a milestone, not an endpoint, as they will continually seek to invigorate a safety mindset/culture for staff and patients to come.

The elements of the inspection were leadership and employee involvement, worksite analysis, hazard prevention and control, and safety and health training. The Army Medical Command implemented the ASHMS Star of Excellence Program in 2012 to promote excellence in safety management throughout Army Medicine.

The ASHMS Star Program recognizes organizations for having exemplary worksites with comprehensive safety and health management systems. The Fort Huachuca DCC has shown their efforts concerning safety and occupational health are superior in their ability to control workplace hazards, manage risks, and ingrain safety practices in their day-to-day operations thus rewarded as an ASHMS Star site.

“We embarked on the journey to achieve Army Safety Star status in 2018. I am really proud of our Soldiers and the entire dental clinic staff for working together to achieve such a prestigious award. It took coordinated team effort to make something of this nature happen. I really appreciate everyone's support with the Army Safety Program and commitment to creating a safe work environment, so that we can safely provide the highest quality service to our Soldiers.”

Congratulations to the entire Fort Huachuca DCC Team!





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – CENTRAL UPDATE

Joint Base San Antonio Fort Sam Houston (JBSA FSH) DENTAC

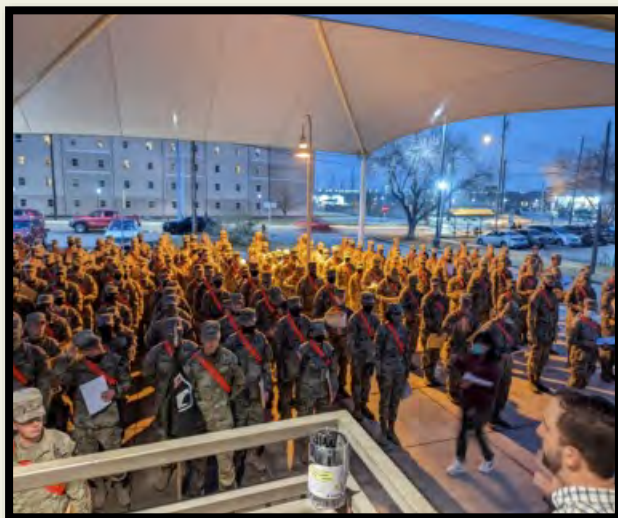
On Jan. 24, 2022, JBSA FSH DENTAC went live with MHS Genesis (Dentrix Enterprise). Dr. William Martin, Dentrix SME for the Dental Corps, stated, “This was the smoothest roll out yet.” Although the transition went very well, there are a number of lessons learned that can be shared.

LTC Sachiyo Kawaguchi, Officer in Charge, of Rhoades Dental Clinic, stated that identifying Super Users early on in the process was imperative to success during the Go Live week. Providing Super Users ample time to complete training facilitates the training of the remaining clinic staff. The Rhoades Dental Clinic team also noted that proper organization of training, adequate classroom capacity, accurate training rosters and verifying points of contacts with the LPDH team are needed prior to the Go Live week. Overall, the team at Rhoades Dental Clinic did exceptionally well in preparing to transition to MHS Genesis.



Mr. Darrell Meyers, JBSA DENTAC XO, stated that it is essential for other DENTACs transitioning to MHS Genesis (Dentrix) system to ensure that all providers (Dentist, Hygienist, X2s and EFDAs) have National Provider Identifier (NPI) numbers. This is critical in Dentrix to allow providers to receive appropriate workload credit. All clinic personnel must attend the Sign-On Fair prior to Go Live as Dentrix accounts and permissions are validated at the Sign-On Fair. Downloading all appointments from Corporate Dental System (CDS) one week prior to Go Live will enable the staff to

move the appointments to the correct provider when they are imported into Dentrix.



The Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) team at BAMC also had a very successful roll out. CPT Cason, OMS Chief Resident, discovered that the transition to MHS Genesis affected all aspects of how they provide care to their patients, from check-in to discharge. As expected, transition to a new system created apprehension, however, the team came together utilizing peer-to-peer training throughout the week.

COL Jeff Hambrice, JBSA DENTAC Commander, recommended that DENTAC leadership be included in the planning and



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – CENTRAL UPDATE

Joint Base San Antonio Fort Sam Houston (JBSA FSH) DENTAC

coordination of the Go Live process from the beginning. The Henry Schein dental team made themselves available for an out-brief with the command team a couple of days after Go Live week. This was very helpful to both parties as it identified some possible areas of improvement as well as some lessons learned that can be valuable for other DENTACs.

By far, the most valuable assistance the JBSA dental clinics received was from the “Pay It Forward” (PIF) team. These are volunteer personnel from other sites who are already using Dentrrix. These volunteers were present during the entire week of the Go Live event. The PIF team provided over-the-shoulder training along with valuable tips to successfully navigate and effectively utilize Dentrrix. Mr. Meyers stated, “The PIF team’s contribution was invaluable and was more helpful and meaningful than the official computer-based and instructor-led training.”





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – CENTRAL UPDATE

Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) Dental Corps

On Jan. 28 and 29, 2022, the Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) Dental Corps conducted its Annual Training Meeting near JBSA. The officers in attendance were from the Europe, Atlantic, Central and Pacific regions. This training has its origins from the mid 2000's, with the intent to disseminate important information and build esprit de corps among the IMA Officers. Building upon this original intent, the current training now incorporates face to face instruction for required trainings such as SHARP and EO as well as updates from HRC, Dental Directorate, USAR Dental Surgeon, and the Army Dental Corps Chief. In addition to this valuable information, an ACFT was conducted. The event concluded with continuing education on Medication Osteonecrosis of the Jaws: An update for the Dental Practitioner presented by IMA Officer LTC Aycock.

Dental Health Command – Central (DHC-C) was crucial to the success of the training by arranging medical readiness appointments on JBSA and providing access to government network computers to access board files, update MEDPROS and other tasks. The diagnostic ACFT for nearly 20 IMA Officers was conducted in conjunction with the JBSA DENTAC. Both teams worked in tandem to ensure that the ACFT was fully explained and conducted in a timely manner to allow the officers to return to the training site on time.



With the IMA Dental Corps losing its central coordinator several years ago, DHC-C should be recognized not only for this support but also for the manner in which it was delivered. Living up to the Army values of Selfless Service, DHC-C planned for weeks to ensure that they would work around the officers training schedules to ensure all requested assistance was delivered. The result of their hard work and dedication was an IMA Dental Corps that felt valued and an important part of the US Army Dental Corps.

Donald C Gundlach DDS

COL, USAR, DC

DIRECTOR DIMA Dental Health Command – Central

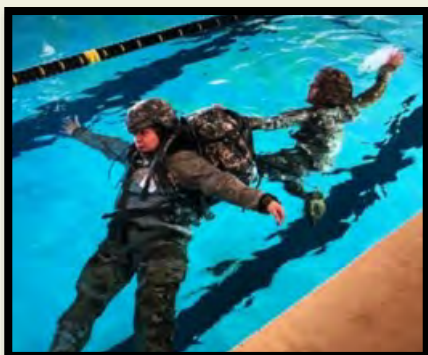


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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND – CENTRAL UPDATE

Dental Health Activity - Fort Bliss

Dental Health Command - Central conducted their first Senior Enlisted Validation Exercise - Reoccurring Event (SEVERE) and 8 Step Training Model from 18-21 January at Fort Bliss, Texas. Leaders participated in a physically and mentally challenging exercise. The training consisted of the 8 Step Training Model, ACFT, Shoot House, Confidence Course, CASEVAC, Day/Night Land Navigation, Ruck March, Combat Water Survival and several other Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills. It was a world class event hosted by the Fort Bliss DENTAC with full support of the Fort Bliss installation.



The purpose of this event was to validate and certify leaders, and to share knowledge and experience while building esprit de corps and camaraderie among the command's most senior enlisted leaders and their selected NCOs. In conjunction with this event, they also received proper training using the 8 Step Training Model. There were 57 Army Warriors Tasks completed during the three-day event. According to MSG Rawls, "Training is the cornerstone in capability and SEVERE Training adds to the lethality our team."





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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63B

63B Experience Serving in a Dental Company (Area Support)

One of the important roles of a 63B Comprehensive Dentist in the DENTAC and FORSCOM is to implement excellent patient care in garrison and in the deployed environment. The Advanced Education in General Dentistry 2 residency provides advanced technique training that allowing 63Bs to be force multipliers where specialists are not available. The key to our training and skill as a 63B is knowing our limitations. Knowing when to refer to a specialist ensures our patients receive the care their sacrifice deserves.

I started my Army career in the Army Reserves in December 2000 as a Private. I wanted to do something more in my life and to serve in an organization with a higher purpose. I served for nearly nine years on active duty including a deployment to Fort Knox, Kentucky in 2003 and a deployment to Forward Operating Base Victory, Iraq in 2006. I hit my goal of earning the rank of staff sergeant, as my father before me, and enjoyed the role of mentoring enlisted Soldiers while serving in multiple roles with the 3rd Medical Deployment Support Command, Fort Gillem, GA.

My passion for dentistry hit during my deployment to Iraq where I served as a dental assistant for our dentist. His mentorship led me to apply for dental school and I have zero regrets. My prior enlisted experience helps me to understand the multiple positions and responsibilities our enlisted Soldiers have in our dental clinics. Our clinics cannot function without them.

As the junior Deputy Consultant for General Dentistry to the Army Surgeon General, my favorite role is director of the Advanced Clinic Provider (ACP) program. The ability to motivate and mentor 63As to advance their clinical skills and knowledge allows them to grow personally in their military and dental professional skills. Officers who complete the ACP program gain the Additional Skill Identifier (ASI) 9F.

Currently, I am the Officer in Charge (OIC) of McClung Dental Clinic at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) DENTAC and serve as a MTOE Assigned Personnel (MAP) with the 673rd Dental Company Area Support (DCAS). I became OIC in August 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our clinic's mission for the I Corps Commander was dental readiness. The McClung Clinic NCOs have worked hard to achieve dental readiness for our patient population. Their innovations in scheduling, their knowledge to create efficiencies in treatment, and their dedication to our Soldiers led to McClung to return to high levels of dental readiness and meet our commander's mission.





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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63B

63B Experience Serving in a Dental Company (Area Support)

Being an OIC has been extremely humbling. I am constantly amazed by our staff's ability to meet each mission given to them. Their creative thinking generates solutions I could not have seen myself. I have learned to ask more questions and to obtain input from staff for decisions. The staff is always closer to the problem than I am and with their experience they have come up with great solutions that benefit our Soldiers. It was been my honor and privilege to serve with each and every one of the astounding people at McClung Dental Clinic.

Serving in a garrison unit and a field unit has expanded my view of Army dentistry. Generating a healthy patient population directly translates to the effectiveness of the fighting force. At the field training exercises with the 673rd DCAS, I learned the operational role of a dentist in a deployed environment. Dentists must maintain the skills necessary to return Soldiers to duty close to the point of injury and minimize the need to evacuate patients to higher roles of care. This is where we as dentists get to truly meet our mission to conserve the fighting strength.



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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63B

Congratulations to the following 63Bs for successfully challenging the American Board of General Dentistry board examination. Board certification signifies the pinnacle of achievement for Army comprehensive dentists that are trained extensively in all aspects of dentistry. It also signifies dedication to continuing education. Board certification is awarded only after completion of two phases of written, clinical, and oral examinations. The two phases are usually taken one year apart.

LTC Michael Browning

LTC Michael Hoffman

MAJ(P) Sung Kim

MAJ Ryan Allred

MAJ Gamal Baker

MAJ Autumn Becker

MAJ Daniel Becker

MAJ Caitlin Fehlinger

MAJ Joshua Gonzalez

MAJ John Hastings

MAJ George Hauser

MAJ Cori McClatchey

MAJ Jesse Thietten

MAJ Taylor Tokunaga

MAJ Michael Tong

CPT(P) Jamie Greenwell

CPT(P) Caroline Mikaloff

CPT(P) Christian Petersen

Congratulations to the 63Bs selected for the FY23 COL and LTC AMEDD CSL commands. Being selected among all competing AMEDD officers is an outstanding achievement and speaks to their great potential to lead other AMEDD personnel.

COL CSL

LTC(P) Eric Danko - Principal

LTC CSL

LTC DeMarcio Reed - Principal

LTC Shani Thompson Burkes - Principal



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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63B

Fort Hood Advanced Education in General Dentistry

The start of the 2022 Academic Year has been eventful at the Fort Hood Advanced Education in General Dentistry 2-year (AEGD-2) program. The entire staff has shown resiliency overcoming all obstacles brought on by the pandemic and they continue to deliver exceptional warrior-focused oral healthcare. This commitment to completing the training mission means that in a few months we will once again be graduating a group of world-class clinicians and military leaders at Fort Hood!



Didactic training has been filled with terrific guest consultants who have all enhanced the resident's knowledge. In October, the program took part in a virtual CBCT course courtesy of MAJ Robert Hilton, USAF OMR. They have participated in multiple hands-on training opportunities. Courses hosted by industry representatives taught residents how to use different surgical and restorative products and techniques, from esthetic composite resin placement to surgical placement of dental implants to bone regeneration.

Our mentors deserve recognition for some outstanding professional accomplishments this year. Three of our faculty members completed steps toward board certification during the Fall semester. MAJ Colleen Segall (63K) achieved full board certification in October, MAJ Jose Burgos (63E) successfully passed his oral board exam (2 of 3 sections complete), and MAJ Eric Hu (63F) passed two oral exams (Section B Part 4 and Section C) leaving him only one exam away from board certification. Our educators are also leading from the front in research completion. COL John Decker (63D) submitted for publication his work (in conjunction with Institute Surgical Research and SAMC ENT researchers) on a

porcine model for facial burns and MAJ Hu was recently published in The Medical Journal, U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, for his work performing dental rehabilitation on military working dogs while stationed in Korea.

Later this year, the leadership at the Fort Hood AEGD2 is looking forward to hosting the annual Graduate Dental Education 63A Restorative Short Course. Scheduled May 23-26, 2022, the course will be taught by local and guest specialty leaders, with a focus on the ICTL requirements. Specific course information will be disseminated soon through the chain of command.



Veterans Day BBQ for friends and family of the Fort Hood AEGD-2 residency program. Great food, horseback riding and skeet shooting were highlights of the event.