



The Dental Corps Bulletin

Useful Links

- ♦ [National Defense Strategy](#)
- ♦ [2022-23 Army Medicine Campaign Plan](#)

Dental Corps

- ♦ [Army Dental Corps](#)
- ♦ [Dental Directorate SharePoint](#)
- ♦ [Dental Corps History](#)

HRC/Personnel Links

- ♦ [HRC \(DC OPMD\)](#)
- ♦ [AIM 2.0](#)
- ♦ [IPPS-A](#)
- ♦ [FY22 Board Schedule](#)
- ♦ [Promotion/Selection Results](#)
- ♦ [LTHET FY21 Results](#)

Dental Education/CE

- ♦ [USU Postgraduate Dental College](#)
- ♦ [AMEDD Virtual Library—Dentistry](#)
- ♦ [Army Blackboard](#)

Patient Safety/Infection Prevention and Control

- ♦ [MHS Patient Safety Program](#)
- ♦ [Infection Control](#)
- ♦ [CDC - Dental settings](#)
- ♦ [The Joint Commission- Dental](#)

Miscellaneous

- ♦ [Broadening Opportunities program \(B.O.P\)](#)
- ♦ [Post 9/11 GI Bill Benefits/Transferability & Yellow Ribbon Program](#)



Army Dental Officer Leads COVID-19 Medical Team

In response to the increased COVID-19 numbers and stress on local facilities during the most recent pandemic surge, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requested that the Department of Defense (DoD) provide medical response teams to deploy to states where local hospitals were overwhelmed. At the request of the individual states, as directed by and in coordination with FEMA, the DoD has deployed multiple medical teams capable of assisting and/or backfilling medical professionals, augmenting COVID-19 care, to civilian hospitals and healthcare centers throughout the country. The Joint Task Force- Civil Support (JTF-CS) conducts Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) in support of the lead federal agency and designated state authorities in order to provide medical augmentation support to hospitals and medical facilities for COVID-19 response.

Federal team helping fight COVID at Sparrow Hospital



Federal team helping fight COVID at Sparrow Hospital

Once team members are identified and placed on a medical response team, tasked individuals remain prepared to deploy within 96-hour notification. One such team, a Medium Medical Team (MMT) comprised of US Army MEDCOM Soldiers, recently deployed to Lansing, MI. This particular team was led by an Army periodontist, COL Jill Sanders, and comprised of medical providers, registered nurses, and respiratory technicians in addition to a command and control element. This team provided augmentation to the overwhelmed staff of Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, MI for 30 days in FEB/MAR 2022. During the integration process, the leaders of Sparrow Hospital went above and beyond to make the team feel welcomed and appreciated.

Upon arrival to the hospital, the team was received at the door by hospital leaders, staff, a Congresswoman and members of the community. They walked through the main entrance of the hospital and were greeted by people cheering and clapping and showing their relief and gratitude that much-needed help had arrived. From there, the team went through an expedited and intense orientation period consisting of a mission brief, credentialing, badging, a hospital





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tour, and electronic record training. The medical personnel then were assigned to their various units and worked shadow shifts with the organic staff of those units until they felt comfortable with their new surroundings. At that point, they were fully integrated into the regular scheduled hospital shifts and worked alongside the remarkable staff of Sparrow Hospital for 30 days. For many of the nurses, physicians and respiratory technicians, this was their first experience working in a civilian hospital. Not only were they able to contribute to the medical care of the Lansing community, but they also gained invaluable experience and knowledge that they will be able to carry with them as they continue their careers. This unique experience served as a reminder to all members of the team the value of selfless-service, and offered a priceless opportunity for growth as Soldiers and healthcare workers as “American citizens, helping American citizens, on American soil.”





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Serving the Dental Profession

By: LTC James Giesen

As Army dentists, we are no strangers to the concept of service. Each day we serve our patients by delivering high-caliber dental care. We serve our employees by professionally managing clinic operations and providing a stable work environment. When on deployments far from home, we serve the warfighter by treating dental pain and disease and returning them to duty. Service to the profession of dentistry is an avenue in which dentists can serve their broader community.

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) is an organization focused on serving the profession of dentistry. The Army AGD constituency serves its members by providing opportunities for continuing education, mentorship, leadership development, and financial support to its members. The officers and committee members of the Army AGD work toward creating events and experiences that will enhance the career of all Army dentists.

Lifelong learning through continuing education is a cornerstone of the AGD. Over the past year, the Army AGD built a state-of-the-art continuing education (CE) platform and increased the number of live and recorded webinars from six per year to one or two every month. Many volunteer hours are required to plan these events and run each webinar. These dentists devote their time to making these events successful in serving their fellow practitioners and strengthening the profession. Providing on-demand CE for Army dentists continues to be a value-added benefit during resource-constrained conditions. Volunteer opportunities are a medium to develop young educators as lecturers and mentors.

The Executive Board for the Army AGD serves as a vehicle to develop future Army leaders. These positions allow members to acquire skills such as managing budgets, developing programs and policies, and acting as liaisons with dental leaders from our sister services and partner forces. Cultivating these skills is critical to developing organizational and strategic level leaders.

The Army AGD actively supports dental outreach, graduate education, and continuing education through financial support by providing mini-grant awards to constituent members. These funds support National Children's Dental Health activities, impoverished communities, teaching aids for AEGD-1 and AEGD-2 programs, and support to DENTAC CE events. The Army AGD also provides scholarships for junior Dental Officers to attend the National AGD meeting and associated continuing education events. These efforts offer dental officers opportunities to volunteer within their broader community. All dental officers should consider services within the profession of dentistry. Whether you are a prosthodontist on a committee with the American College of Prosthodontists or serve on a working group at the American Academy of Periodontists, you will gain valuable experiences for your career and the Army. Thank you to all for your service!





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Exploring Opportunities with a Career Map

By: MAJ Martin Smallidge

Career mapping is an exercise that all Soldiers should take time to complete. This exercise will help Soldiers understand their career path and the opportunities that a career in Army Medicine provides. For leaders, career maps can assist in understanding the career objectives of their personnel.

Career Maps help leaders lay out a career timeline. Every Soldier must consider when to attend educational programs, assignments, and professional military education (PME) to compete for future assignments. Our financial goals and families' desires play an essential role in career planning. Below is an example of a generic 63F - Prosthodontist Career Map generated on the [Army Career Tracker](#). The document lists PME, broadening assignments, and command opportunities anticipated at each level of development. Leaders can find opportunities for military courses at [Joint Medical Executive Skills Institute](#), [Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute](#), [JKO](#), and [ATRRS](#). Those interested in unique assignment opportunities should also explore the [Broadening Opportunity Programs](#). Each Soldier will have a unique Career Map.

As leaders in our clinics or commands, Career Maps are a conversation starter to understand the career orientation of those we lead. Every Soldier should be able to articulate where they see themselves for their next assignment or two. One way to explore possible assignments is to read the HRC Dental Corps Branch Documents on AIM 2.0. Here, officers can find staff, broadening, and command opportunities.

Writing a Career Map provides an opportunity to lay out our professional and personal leadership development over time. These timelines help communicate our desired future assignments. Each leader should schedule time every few months to map the future of their career.

		ACT Career Map - 63F					CareerTracker	
		Generated by Army Career Tracker Reporting Page 1					Report generated on Mar 14, 2022	
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ACT Career Map Example



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- ATLANTIC UPDATE

FORT MEADE DENTAC - Best Leader Competition (BLC)

The Fort Meade DENTAC and MEDDAC executed a combined BLC in January 2022. The BLC is designed to promote esprit de corps throughout the Army while recognizing Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) and Soldiers that demonstrate commitment to the Army values and embody the Warrior Ethos. The competition recognizes those Soldiers demonstrating superb military bearing and communication skills, knowledge of various military subjects, and the ability to perform a variety of Soldier/Warrior skills above their peers.

The four day competition tested the Soldiers endurance and knowledge in important Soldier tasks. The Soldiers faced off during water survival, day and night land navigation and a “stress shoot,” where the Soldiers had to be able to accurately hit a target after experiencing high-energy stressful engagements that involved simulated casualties. This event was designed to mentally and physically challenge the competitors’ ability to shoot, move, communicate, and provide combat casualty medical care under pressure.

The DENTAC continues to build on a relationship with MEDDAC, which allows the DENTAC to build on readiness to ensure our Soldiers are a Ready Medical Force while also using our skills to deliver a Medically Ready Force.





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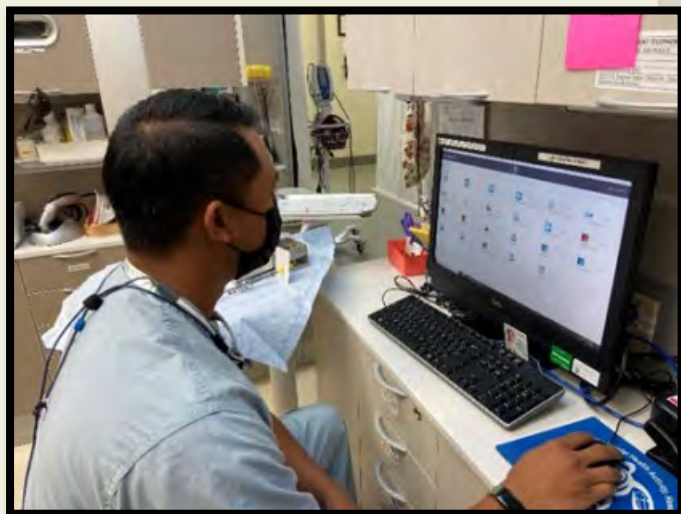
AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63D PERIODONTICS

Introduction

Army periodontists (63D) across the enterprise are vital members of oral healthcare delivery teams. Periodontists treat periodontal and peri-implant disease, extract hopeless teeth, and perform alveolar ridge preservation/augmentation, gingival augmentation, root coverage, sinus elevation, and implant surgery, among other procedures. Periodontists help take patients from DRC-3 to DRC-1 as quickly as possible while delivering the clinical and patient-oriented outcomes soldiers deserve. Many Army periodontists fill important command and staff positions, and many serve as educators in Army AEGD-1 and Comprehensive Dentistry programs. Working together with general dentists and specialists, 63Ds are able to help optimize treatment outcomes in complex oral rehabilitations.

MHS Genesis Transition

Multiple Army periodontists are leading the way during the MHS Genesis transition, and LTC Kim Inouye is one example. LTC Inouye is a SuperUser responsible for transitioning Bhaskar Dental Clinic at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, to MHS Genesis. On September 29, Tripler and all military healthcare in Hawaii including Army, Air Force, and Navy sites went live with the new system. Imbedded Pay-It-Forward personnel like Dr. William Martin (JBLM) and LTC Leslie Oakes (63K, Fort Irwin) provided support and expertise during the conversion.



DENTAC-HI personnel transition to MHS Genesis under the supervision of SuperUser LTC Kim Inouye.



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Augusta University Research Competition

On March 9, the Dental College of Georgia Office of Research hosted Research and Table Clinic Day 2022 to promote scientific research and innovative clinical care. The hybrid symposium format included a virtual poster/presentation competition, a capstone lecture, an awards ceremony, interactive poster presentations, and a virtual poster gallery. A total of 70 residents and dental students presented research. CPT(P) Anthony Vargas, Assistant Professor, Department of Periodontics, Army Postgraduate Dental School, served as one of the judges for the event. MAJ Aaron Pfaff, MAJ April Bumpers, CPT(P) Sarah Vargas, and CPT Jennah Wagner represented Army Dentistry in the competition. MAJ Pfaff received first place in the clinical research category.





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Publications



The Army Periodontics Class of 2022 recently received recognition for scholarly activities positively affecting oral healthcare for Army soldiers. Collectively, this group has published one article in the Journal of the American Dental Association, three articles in Clinical Advances in Periodontics, and two articles in the Medical Journal (abstracts/articles accessible using the information provided below), with additional manuscripts under review in high impact journals. Two of these excellent clinicians will serve as educators in GDE programs upon graduation.

A list of publications authored/co-authored by the Class of 2022 is presented on the following page.

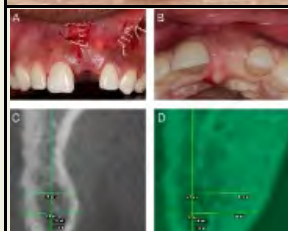


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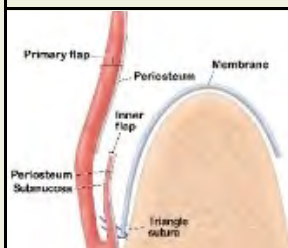
Firm palatal swelling adjacent to a submerged dental implant. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adaj.2021.03.023>.



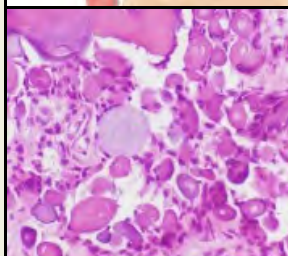
Overlay analysis of cone-beam computed tomography volumes acquired before and after horizontal alveolar ridge augmentation. PMID: 34714921.



Neodymium-doped yttrium aluminum garnet laser photobiomodulation may improve neurosensory function after surgical injury to cranial nerve V: a report of three consecutive cases. PMID: 34940972.



The triangle suture for membrane fixation in guided bone regeneration procedures: a report of two cases. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cap.10193>.



Dental implants at sites of focal high and mixed density osseous lesions: clinical practice guidelines. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cap.10192>.



Should periodontists prescribe postoperative oral corticosteroids to control pain and swelling? A systematic review. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cap.10169>,



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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63D PERIODONTICS

In the Clinic

During residency, Army periodontists achieve proficiency across the full scope of contemporary periodontics, including surgical treatment of periodontitis and peri-implantitis, periodontal plastic surgery, alveolar ridge augmentation, and sinus elevation. In implant dentistry, periodontics residents become experts in digital workflow, from planning a case on the computer and printing the surgical template to fully guided implant placement with immediate provisionalization. Example cases are shown below.

Esthetic crown lengthening completed by MAJ April Bumpers. Baseline appearance (upper left). Flap reflected (upper right). Adjustment of alveolar bone (lower left). Postoperative week seven (lower right).

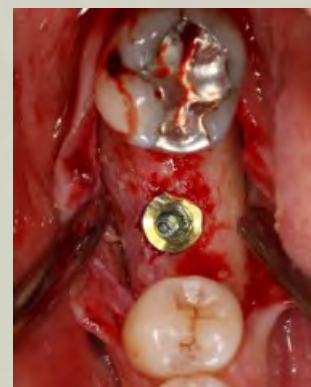




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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63D PERIODONTICS

Alveolar ridge augmentation completed by MAJ Aaron Pfaff. (1) Freeze-dried bone allograft in place. (2) Dense polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) membrane in place. (3) Alveolar ridge at implant surgery. (4) Implant installed.



Immediate implant placement completed by CPT(P) Sarah Vargas. Baseline appearance (upper left). Guided immediate implant placement (upper right). Implant stabilized in extraction socket (lower left). Immediate provisional implant-supported crown at postoperative week one. LTC Walter Dimalanta utilized a compatible laboratory kit to fabricate the provisional crown in advance of tooth extraction (lower right).





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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63D PERIODONTICS

Epithelialized palatal graft completed by CPT Jennah Wagner. Baseline appearance (upper left). Recipient site preparation (upper right). Graft stabilized (lower left). Postoperative week four (lower right).



Hail and Farewell

Army Periodontics bids farewell to COL James W. Turonis. COL Turonis has distinguished himself through a brilliant and impactful 30-year Army career comprised of education positions, operational assignments, and multiple successful commands.

COL Turonis commanded the Hanau Dental Clinic Command, Hanau, Germany, from 2005 through 2008, and the 561st Medical Company (Dental Services), Grafenwoehr, Germany, from 2008 through 2009. He then went on to command the 257th Dental Company (Area Support). COL Turonis deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn. He also served as the Theater Dental Consultant to the USF-I Surgeon's Office and Task Force 807 MED. From 2012 through 2015, COL Turonis commanded the United States Army Dental Activity, West Point, NY. In this capacity, COL Turonis interfaced directly with the Superintendent of the United States Military Academy to meet the dental treatment needs of the United States Corps





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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63D PERIODONTICS

of Cadets during a rigorous four-year academic, athletic, and military training program. While in command of the United States Army Dental Activity, Fort Bragg, from 2017 through 2020, COL Turonis led over 300 officers and soldiers across three residency programs and five readiness clinics. Over a period of three decades, COL Turonis had a tremendous influence on soldiers, Army dentistry, Graduate Dental Education, and the multiple units he commanded. We appreciate his dedicated service and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

AMEDD 'A' Designator

Congratulations to 2021 recipients of The AMEDD "A" designator, LTC(P) William A. Gilbert (left) and LTC(P) Kevin Gillespie (right).

