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Useful Links

- ◆ <u>National Defense</u> Strategy
- ◆ 2022-23 Army Medicine Campaign Plan

Dental Corps

- ♦ Army Dental Corps
- ♦ <u>Dental Directorate</u> <u>SharePoint</u>
- ♦ Dental Corps History

HRC/Personnel Links

- ♦ HRC (DC OPMD)
- ♦ <u>AIM 2.0</u>
- ♦ <u>IPPS-A</u>
- ♦ My Board File
- ◆ FY21 Board Schedule
- ◆ FY22 Board Schedule
- ◆ FY21 Selection Results
- ♦ LTHET FY21 Results

Dental Education/CE

- ◆ <u>USU Postgraduate</u> <u>Dental College</u>
- ◆ <u>AMEDD Virtual Li-</u> <u>brary—Dentistry</u>
- ◆ Army Blackboard

Patient Safety/Infection Prevention and Control

- ◆ MHS Patient Safety <u>Program</u>
- ♦ <u>Infection Control</u>
- ♦ CDC Dental settings
- ◆ The Joint Commission-Dental

Miscellaneous

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



The Pursuit of Education

Lifelong education is a mantra for any profession. In the Profession of Arms, Soldiers are called to be lifelong learners in multiple arenas. Soldiers must be proficient at their MOS/AOC to support the Nation when called upon. As a Soldier's career progresses, they find that the Army provides numerous opportunities to pursue institutional education. Consistent dedication to education is an investment into new assignments and provides a Soldier with the tools to reinvent themselves as the Army changes.



COL Richard L. Williams is a true example of lifelong
learning and professional education. His most recent academic
achievement was a MBA from the University of South Carolina. The university recently recognized COL Williams in a feature article *Gaining New Opportunities*, by James Culbertson.

COL Williams' service in uniform began 34 years ago as a Cadet in the Army R.O.T.C. at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, and the Simultaneous Membership Program, through the South Carolina Army National Guard. COL Williams graduated from The Citadel in 1990 and received a B.S. degree in Biology-Education, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Before entering dental school, COL Williams worked as a histology and gross anatomy lab technician at Medical University of South Carolina, and developed his undying penchant for research. During the fall of 1991, he completed the AMEDD Officer Basic Course. Then, in 1992, he entered University of Florida College of Dentistry to complete a concurrent/dual degree program in higher education administration. He maintained his Army Reserve appointment throughout dental school training.

Following dental school, COL Williams entered active duty in the Army Dental Corps, and completed the AEGD (1-year) residency program at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital, Ft. Campbell, KY – with a follow-on assignment as Brigade Dental Surgeon, in the 101st Airborne Division. Later, he completed specialty residency training in periodontics at Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Ft. Gordon, GA.

COL Williams is currently assigned as Chief, Division of Dental Science and Senior Instructor at the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, continued on page 3



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LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Army Medical Department Dental Corps Nominative Commands

The U.S. Army Dental Corps Chief would like to encourage all eligible officers to OPT-IN for the opportunity to compete for the FY23 Army Medical Department Dental Corps Nominative Commands.

Officers must OPT-IN and preferences command opportunities before 2359 EST, 8 July 2022.

The Opt-In process is on the AIM 2.0 platform. Log on and go to the 'My Information' tab on the left of the screen. After clicking 'My Information,' click the 'My Selection Preferences.'

For additional information contact the Dental Corps HRC Team at usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.opmd-dental-corps@mail.mil or by phone at (502) 613-6844.

2022 U.S. Army Dental Corps Assistant Delegate to the American Dental Association House of Delegates

The Dental Corps Chief is seeking self-nominations from Dental Corps Captains and Majors to service as the U.S. Army American Dental Association House of Delegates Assistant Delegate position. The selected individual will attend the 2022 ADA and House of Delegates Annual meeting and serve as Assistant Delegate for the U.S. Army for the House of Delegates (12-19 October 2022).

The nominee must be a active ADA member in good standing. They can be an AOC in the rank of Captain or Major with at least two years of active duty service remaining.

For additional information please email the Dental Corps Chief's office at <u>usarmy.jbsa.medical-coe.mbx.dental-corps@army.mil</u>.



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JBSA-Ft. Sam Houston, TX. His immediate previous assignment was Deputy Commander and Professor at Dental Health Activity-Ft. Jackson, where he also served, as a Periodontics Mentor for the AEGD (1-year) residency program. From 2018-2019, COL Williams completed an overseas tour as the OIC of Carius Dental Clinic, Camp Humphreys, South Korea.

Prior to Korea, COL Williams served as the last Commander of the U.S. Army Dental & Trauma Research Detachment, and first Director for Dental and Craniofacial Trauma Research, at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, where he also served as a Principal Investigator and AMEDD acquisition management specialist. COL Williams' research focused on management of biofilm-infected wounds; host-modulation to treat and mitigate scar formation; and post-traumatic cranial nerve regeneration. He particularly enjoyed other broadening responsibilities as Consultant to the Surgeon General for Dental Research and panel advisor & grant reviewer for Congressionally-Directed Medical Research Programs. He served as a member of several Defense-level boards, and Army Education Outreach Programs, including: Integrated Product Team for the Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine II, and focus area representative for Department of Defense Joint Program Research Committees for both Combat Casualty Care and Clinical & Rehabilitative Medicine. COL Williams served as part of the U.S. Delegation to the NATO Workshop on Regenerative Medicine, in cooperation with Julius Wolff Institute and Center for Regenerative Medicine Therapies, Charlité-Universitätsmedizin, Berlin, Germany.

COL Williams received his Ph.D. degree in Immunology from University of Illinois at Chicago, and his Doctor of Dental Medicine and Master of Education degrees from University of Florida. Furthermore, he earned a Master of Science degree in oral biology from Medical College of Georgia. Most recently, COL Williams successfully completed the MBA degree program (with a concentration in *Innovation and Entrepreneurship*), as well as a Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics, from the Darla Moore School of Business at University of South Carolina. His goal for the MBA was to gain critical knowledge of business concepts and methodologies, which are immediately applicable to his acquisition functions in innovation and technology management. He believes that the MBA will enhance his contributions to the military medical enterprise. His intent for pursuing the additional STEM-designated analytics certification was to augment his data management skills, as a PhD scientist, and to learn additional techniques to help optimize business performance, by reducing risk and making data-driven decisions.

Additionally, COL Williams is a certified member of the Defense Acquisition Corps, with double certifications in the Engineering & Technology Management (Level 3) and Program Management (Level 2) career fields. His military education includes: AMEDD Officer Basic and Advanced Courses; Combined Arms and Services Staff School (CAS3); Combat Casualty Care Course; Medical Logistics Management Course; Patient Administration Course; Army Air Assault School; Joint Operations Medical Manager's Course; Emergency War Surgery Course; Capabilities/Combat Development Course; AMEDD Instructor and Training Program Manager Courses; Army Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Course; Dental Management Development Course; Acquisition Law Course; Program Management Course; Advanced Science



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and Technology Management Course; AMEDD Executive Skills Program; Brigade Pre-Command Course; Defense Department (DEOMI) Leadership Team Awareness Course; and the Army Command and General Staff College.

For more than 10 years, COL Williams has held a Full Professor appointment on the national faculty of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD. Professionally, he is an active member of the following organizations: American College of Dentists; International College of Dentists; American Academy of Periodontology; American Board of Periodontology; American Dental Association; Wound Healing Society; Society for the Advancement of Wound Care; American Dental Education Association; American Association for Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research; International Association for Dental Research; National Defense Industrial Association; The American Legion; and AMSUS, The Society of Federal Health Professionals.

COL Williams is a Diplomate (board-certified) of the American Board of Periodontology, Fellow of the American College of Dentists, Fellow of the International College of Dentists, and Fellow of the American Dental Association Leadership Institute. Moreover, he is a recipient of the Army Surgeon General's "A" Proficiency Designator, and he is a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit.

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63Ks Participate in the 75th AAPD Annual Session over Memorial Day Weekend

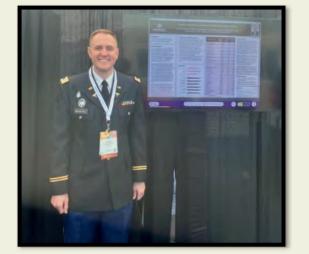
By: MAJ(P) Christopher Luevano

Last month, seven Army Pediatric Dentists (63Ks) traveled to San Diego and learned about emerging materials, techniques, treatments, and studies relating to dental trauma, special healthcare needs, and pediatric dentistry. Attendance at the annual meeting enabled 63Ks to share best practices and enhance partnerships across Sister Services and the profession as a whole. Pediatric dentistry best practices are directly related to readiness and enhance family readiness across the Military Health System.

During the meeting, Army Pediatric Dental Resident Captain Kevin Brunstein presented his research on Access to Special Care Dentistry for U.S. Army Dependent Children. This study focused on access to care issues and obstacles associated with U.S. Army Dependent Children with special healthcare needs. This research is important as it helps inform on requirements and capability gaps in the Military Health System for children with special healthcare needs.

Army Pediatric Dentist and Consultant to The Surgeon General for Pediatric Dentistry Colonel Thomas Stark was presented the 2022 American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) Ann

Page Griffin Humanitarian Award. Colonel Stark received this award for his outstanding commitment to alleviating suffering, improving the oral health of under-served populations, and for his significant contributions to improving children's dental health in the United States and abroad.











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Make Sure You Use, Don't Lose!

By: MAJ Martin Smallidge

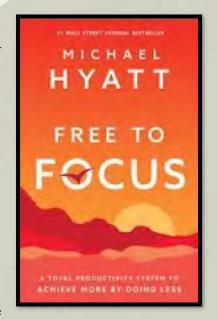
As the calendar turns towards July, we begin seeing end of the fiscal year messages in our in our email. Rather than seeing just another email, reframe these messages as reminders to take time for mental rejuvenation. Don't get stuck with leave days in the loss column!

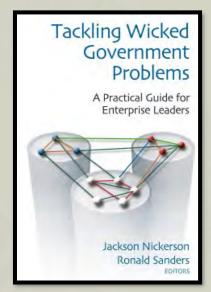
Great leaders recognize the necessity of side stepping the daily grind for mental and physical recovery. Enjoy a vacation with your family or take a day to complete a home project can be just what the doctor ordered. Each minute empties the stresses of work to rebalance us for the months ahead.

These days of relaxation are an opportunity to invest time into the self-development section of our leadership development. Grabbing a book to help improve a weaker skill or understand a new topic is a great investment in time. Here are two that I've found useful.

Free to Focus by Michael Hyatt is packed with practical recommendations to improve your mental space. Hyatt provides techniques for sifting emails and professionally returning emails faster. The book provides guidance on how to focus your energy on less tasks to be more productive at the tasks that matter. Time spent reading this books will return to your quickly.

The next books was lifted from BG Shan Bagby's, 28th Dental Corps Chief, book shelf. He recently recommended *Tackling Wicked Government Problems* by Jackson Nickerson and Ronald Sanders at the Junior Leadership Course. I'd recommend this book if you've been puzzled about how the Army Medicine is going to reform alongside the restructuring of military medicine by the Defense Health Agency. Nickerson and Sanders bring their experience as executives to discuss how solutions to complex problems are solved by relationships, trust, and creative thinking processes. This book will provide perspective on generating solutions to wicked problems at any level.





As you take advantage of your DA-31 submissions this summer, invest time into self-development. When you return, be mentally prepared to take on the mission ahead, armed with new knowledge. Be prepared with one new technique to maintain a healthy mental space day to day. Make sure you don't lose any leave this season. Use and use wisely!



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- CENTRAL UPDATE

JBSA Fort Sam Houston

Soldiers from the JBSA Fort Sam Houston DENTAC participated in the filming of a video to accompany the new dental exhibit coming soon to the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum at Fort Sam Houston. The video team created several practical scenarios for the Soldiers to re-create inside and in front of Rhoades Dental Clinic.







Fort Bliss Dental Health Activity







On May 13, William Beaumont Medical Center held an NCO Induction ceremony and the invitation to participate was extended to the Fort Bliss Dental Heath Activity. Fort Bliss Dental Health Activity is happy to announce three NCOs newly inducted into the Corps of NCOs: SGT Shirley Mendez, SGT Rebecca Sirianni, and CPL Jenny Michel.

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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- CENTRAL UPDATE

Fort Leavenworth Dental Clinic Command (DCC)

Fort Leavenworth DCC has been consistently participating in Individual Critical Task List (ICTL) trainings. In January, Dr. Bonnie Boudreaux from Fort Riley trained several officers on their endodontics ICTLs. Officers have also been training in oral maxillofacial skills including closed reduction techniques.







Mrs. Wahlers, Executive Officer, was recognized by the Command Inspector General (IG) for her accomplishment in coordinating an IG inspection for the Fort Leavenworth Dental Clinic Command.



Mr. Max Pfrimmer, Dental Laboratory Technician, receiving a Patient Safety Award.



Celebrating Administrative Professional Appreciation Week!



In April, the Commanding General and Combat Arms Center Commander visited Smith Dental Clinic to present coins to the clinic leadership for an excellent job in the dental readiness mission.



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- CENTRAL UPDATE

Fort Polk Dental Health Activity

Greetings from Joint Readiness Training Center & Fort Polk, Home of Heroes! We are fortunate to have such resilient members of our team. With everyone's patience and support we were able to complete the \$2.4 million renovation project for Chesser Dental Clinic. The dental treatment facility is equipped with 24 chairs, two private suites and the newest A-DEC cutting edge technologies. On March 11, in commemoration of the 111th Birthday of the US Army Dental Corps, the unit held the Grand Re-Opening Ceremony with Commanding General, BG David Doyle, present. Former Fort Polk DENTAC Commander, COL Colthirst and his family also joined in celebration. Our civilian and military personnel and the units that are empaneled to Chesser Dental Clinic were eager to return home.

The Field Training Exercise, "BJACH Forge", was a brilliant success. Our Soldiers partnered with Bayne Jones Army Community Hospital to complete 9 lanes to EFMB standards, MRT, 3 mile road march, live liter carriers with Aviation support and many other AWTBD's. The DENTAC set up a field unit and simulated dental care in an austere environment.

At Fort Polk we're doing amazing training while getting after readiness and forging the warrior spirit! Army Medicine is Army Strong!









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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND-CENTRAL UPDATE

Fort Riley Dental Health Activity

Ms. Maricel Gibson was honored and awarded Volunteer of the Year, category DoD Civilian of the Year 2021. She has been dedicated to the Dental Assistant Training Program as an instructor and recruiter for numerous years, offers a great balance while educating and ensuring expectations are upheld with a friendly and practical approach that reaches each volunteer, and she was also a graduate from the program. She was recognized in an annual celebration paying tribute to those who selflessly volunteer of themselves to make Fort Riley a better place to live. She received a Certifi-

cate of Appreciation signed by MG Sims, a crystal engraved with the Big Red One Year of the Family logo and their name, a gift card and a dinner honoring them.

The DENTAC's Dental Assistant Training Program graduated seven volunteers which culminated in a ceremony where they received their Graduate Certificate of Completion and Certificate of Appreciation for their 800+ hours of volunteering and hard work and contributing to increased readiness support to our Soldiers.





Training a Ready Dental Force

On 29 March, SPC Dickerson graduated from the Preventive Dentistry Course Class 221-22 as the Distinguished Honor Graduate. After graduation, SPC Dickerson was sent immediately to Fort Leavenworth to assist with the hygiene mission for the patients of the United States Military Corrections Center, Fort Leavenworth.







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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- CENTRAL UPDATE

Fort Riley Dental Health Activity

CPT Truong volunteered to assist the vet clinic with a military working dog (MWD)assigned to the 22nd Security Forces Squadron, McConnel Air Force Base, Kansas. MWD Kato had a broken tooth that needed to be removed and he also received a dental cleaning. MWD Kato is getting ready for retirement after ten years of service.



Ms. Cynthia Amano was recognized as the Family Member for DENTAC at the Big Red One Year of the Family 1st Quarter Recognition Ceremony. She was nominated for making a difference in so many people's lives for the past year where she volunteered as part of the SFRG and Ft. Riley Spouses Club. A couple of the activities she helped lea included community outreach programs, preparing food and serving food for families with food insecurities, painting a daycare center, lead decorator for charity events in the community raising money for Operation Santa Clause, Combined Scholarship Fund, and the USO. She is also the epitome of resilience while going through some very significant challenges this year. The Amano's are a great family and contributed so much to the DENTAC and Ft. Riley Community and are well deserving of recognition as an Outstanding Family.



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND-EUROPE UPDATE

Fort Hood Dental Health Activity

Fort Hood Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD2) Vision: "Establish the Army's premier post-graduate dental education program focused on integrating technology and innovation with evidence-based practices to train world-class clinicians and the future leaders of the Dental Corps and AMEDD."

The first post-graduate dental training site in the United States Army Dental Corps, the Fort Hood Advanced Education in General Dentistry Two Year Residency Program opened its doors in 1962. Over the past 60 years, Army AE-GD2 programs have served as a foundational component of the Army Dental Corps. The goal of the program is to develop career Dental Officers who are clinically and academically competent in all major specialty areas of dentistry, and who are administratively capable assuming leadership positions in military medicine. In 2022, this remains as true as ever. As a testament to the high academic standards held at Fort Hood AEGD2, the Class of 2022 achieve 100% (7 of 7) pass rate on the first phase of ABGD examination (written), while five other alumni earned full Diplomate status after successfully passing Phase 2 examination (oral).

Fort Huachuca Dental Health Activity



MG Michael Talley, Deputy Commanding General (Operations) USAMED-COM paid a visit to Fort Huachuca. to Fort Huachuca's medical treatment facilities and Runion Dental Clinic to check the wartime capabilities and readiness. MG Talley presented coins to our hard working civilian employees Ms. Nieuwenhuis, clinic manager, and Ms. Alfson, sterilization technician, and thanked them for their outstanding work and dedication.



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Fort Sill Dental Health Activity

Fort Sill MEDDAC and DENTAC participated in the annual Lawton-Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce and Industry Armed Forces Day Parade in a combined formation led by LTC Demarcio Reed, DENTAC Commander and CSM Jose Cotto, MEDDAC CSM with display of both unit colors. This year's theme was "Patriotic," and the parade honored the 153rd Anniversary of Fort Sill. Bands, floats, military officials, and veterans united in tribute to the men and women who served our nation both past and present. This event strengthened relationships with the Lawton community, showcased our Soldiers and highlighted Fort Sill's professionalism and spirit de corps. Following the parade, family gathered for a celebration at Elmer Thomas Park featuring food, music, obstacle courses and face painting.





Fort Carson Dental Health Activity

The Army is a master of building training scenarios that test our force on realistic and challenging training. The art of training is one that takes experience with a will to achieve. The Dental Health Command-Central (DHC-C) has fully embraced this challenge and keeps achieving superior results. Just recently they held a dual event to test the Enlisted Soldiers for Soldier of the Year as well as hold a Brigade level Field Training Exercise.

The creativity helps build an understanding that taught the organization the importance of building a program that is multi-purpose and also enforces involvement from around the DHC-C footprint. It was amazing to see the effort of every Soldier from the most junior PV2 to the DHC-C Commander. One of the key objectives was to ensure that the training was relevant for our Soldiers. There were 40 different tasks spanning the Army Combat



Fitness Test, Combat Water Survival Test, and Convoy Operations. The pride of DHC-C is its people and its leaders. Taking advantage of building an event that builds Esprit de Corps, but also allowed training that has been historically tough to accomplish and was the product of giving people a chance to shine. Great job to the team! Winning Matters!



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- CENTRAL UPDATE

Fort Irwin Dental Clinic Command (DCC)

Soldiers of the Fort Irwin Dental Clinic Command (DCC) understanding the meaning of "Work Hard, Play Hard!"



The DCC has been preparing to "deploy" teams out to the National Training Center (NTC) training site to augment dental readiness exams for those soldiers who are routinely unavailable due to rotations. The DCC utilized the Spring Field Training Exercise with MEDDAC and Public Health Command as an initial training platform. They conducted Dental Field Equipment and NOMAD radiography familiarization and then utilized the equipment to perform dental exams on MEDDAC/DCC soldiers that

were becoming due. The DCC continues to find innovative and relevant training opportunities to Fort Irwin Soldiers' Dental Readiness.

When the Fort Irwin DCC soldiers are

not working, there are many opportunities to have fun! The NTC held an inaugural Desert Warrior Week the first week of May, with MSCs competing all week in events such as Tank Pull. Softball, 7 Ball Soccer, Dodgeball, Bowling, Orienteering, Resiliency Obstacle Course, and Paintball.



There are also many opportunities to take advantage of "middle of nowhere but in the middle of everything" location. Joshua Tree and Death Valley National Parks, Big Bear, Las Vegas, San Diego, and Los Angeles are within a 3 hour drive. Soldiers frequently have opportunities to attend national sporting events and game shows. SPC Joseph Morris and PFC Nicholas Bohling had the opportunity to be extras during the production of "A Journal for Jordan", a



film directed by Denzel Washington which had scenes filmed at Fort Irwin. Most recently, SSG Tanya Tate-Swaby and 15 other Fort Irwin soldiers were given the opportunity to attend the 94th Academy Awards at the Dolby Theater in Hollywood, CA where they were able to interact with many Hollywood Stars as they came through the Red Carpet.

The Army has initiated many recruitment and Quality of Life measures for those Soldiers who come to Fort Irwin. The Army has approved the Fort Irwin assignment incentive pay, targeting NCOs who preference Fort Irwin #1 during their ASK-EM market. If you slate Fort Irwin as number one, you

will receive a lump sum payment of \$4800 upon in-processing Fort Irwin, provided you meet the criteria.

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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63M ORTHODONTICS

By COL Kevyn Wetzel, Army Orthodontic Consultant

What an amazing year for the Orthodontic Community! We will welcome two new Army orthodontic graduates, MAJ Rachel Lewin and MAJ Nate Persell, into the orthodontic fold this summer. Our graduates will leave residency not only with their certificate in orthodontics, but also with a master's degree from the Uniform Services University.

As the field of orthodontics evolves and moves from analog to digital, so are we. The fact is, there is far more scanning and less alginate in Army orthodontics as we utilize and align with the most current



TORP Class of 2022

technology. The Army is following suit with the American Board of Orthodontics and with the Tri-service Orthodontic Residency Program in pursuit of this newest standard. As we move to digital scanning, our goals will be to utilize in house printing to facilitate "digital debond" for ahead of time retainer fabrication to allow orthodontists to deliver quicker and more efficient care. Some locations already own scanning equipment, while others are ordering through their CEEP processes.

Orthodontics is one of the most rewarding specialties in the Army, and the Tri-Service Orthodontic Residency (TORP) program is one of the most premier dental residencies in the United States. TORP is a tri-service military training program, located at the Air Force Post-graduate Dental School (AFPDS), Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX, is a component of the San Antonio Military Health System, which includes both Brooke Army Medical Center and Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center. This program provides extensive didactic and clinical surgical orthodontic training, resulting in superb orthodontic skills. As we transition to the Defense Health Agency, military orthodontics is leading the way as the example of tri-service success.

Military orthodontists located CONUS concentrate on surgical cases for oral and maxillofacial surgeons to maintain individual critical task skills. They concentrate on patients with a growing dentition OCONUS (Germany, Belgium, Italy, Japan, Korea) and also support prosthodontic rehabilitation for those service members whose dentition is not functionally stable. Although military orthodontists primarily treat active duty service members CONUS, qualifying family members are treated overseas and a few locations in the United States.

If you are looking for a challenging skill set, are innovative and fun, we need you! Training received at TORP is second to none, and you get to work with some of the best dentists in the Army, Air Force, and Navy. Orthodontists set the standards and continue to excel in all positions. The future is bright!

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AOC SPOTLIGHT - OROFACIAL PAIN

By LTC(P) Alexander Smith

Orofacial pain as of March 2020 has become the 12th Dental Specialty sanctioned by the American Dental Association. Orofacial pain is the discipline involving the differential diagnosis and management of pain and dysfunction of the trigeminal nerve system. More specifically, orofacial pain practitioners evaluate and treat pain and dysfunction involving the masticatory system and associated structures throughout the face, head, neck and shoulders that transmit sensory information into the brain via the trigeminal nuclei.



The role of orofacial pain providers is to assess sensory and motor disorders of the trigeminal system, co-morbid medical conditions and the physiologic disturbances that affect the perception of pain. Medical-dental training enables orofacial providers to render differential diagnoses and initiate management protocols for periods whose symptoms are often confusing or control distory when viewed using tradition

ate management protocols for patients whose symptoms are often confusing or contradictory when viewed using traditional disease models. Orofacial pain providers address the diagnostic and therapeutic void that exists between non-odontogenic facial pain and medical practice. Patients referred to orofacial pain services come from a wide variety of medical, dental, and allied health care providers. Orofacial pain providers are multidisciplinary in their approach to pain diagnoses and control. Their clinical skills are a blend of dentistry, psychology, neurology, anesthesiology, rheumatology, physical therapy, otolaryngology, and rehabilitation medicine. Collateral duties for orofacial pain providers include writing medical boards and addendums, providing legal depositions, consulting with regional Tricare agencies and conducting continuing education about pain for dentists, physicians and other health care providers.

The Orofacial Pain (OFP) residency is a CODA accredited program and is part of the Naval Postgraduate Dental School (NPDS). The School is a component of the Naval Medical Leader & Professional Development Command (NML&PDC) and is located on the campus of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. The OFP residency has both a *two-year track* (for previously trained dental specialists) and *three-year track*. All graduates earn a certificate in OFP. Achievement of a Master's of Science in Oral Biology is required for all three-year track residents and select two-year track residents who have not previously attained this degree. The program currently trains



residents from all three military services (Army, Navy, and Air Force). The OFP residency covers an extensive body of basic medical sciences as related to the study of pain. Because of the inherent diversity of orofacial pain conditions, the residency incorporates clinically relevant information from a wide array of other dental and medical disciplines. The residency curriculum also includes courses that enhance a dental officer's abilities regarding contingency roles, military leadership and personnel management. Successful completion of the program qualifies the resident to challenge the certification examination by the American Board of Orofacial Pain.