

WHAT'S UP, DACH?

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By Amy Stover, PAO, 286-7954

HOT News

JCAHO Mock Survey Next Week

DACH will undergo a mock JCAHO survey Apr 14-17. There will be a separate behavioral health surveyor here from April 14-15. Surveyors are actual JCAHO surveyors and results of the mock survey are briefed to GPRMC. For more info, please call 288-8882.

MEDDAC Happenings

New Artificial Nails Policy

Command Policy Memorandum Letter 34 on Artificial Nails and Hand Hygiene states that artificial nails are not authorized for staff members involved in direct patient care.

This policy is effective immediately, however there is an implementation period to allow personnel to remove artificial nails and to grow out their natural nails. The suspense for this is May 1.

It is also necessary to ensure anyone that anyone providing direct care to our patients, such as students, reservists, volunteers, rotating residents, etc., adheres to this policy.

The memo is located on the DACH intranet. Please refer to the website for more details on this policy. For more information, please call Infection Control at 288-8476.



Commander's Corner



Darnall Staff,

We are living in stressful and demanding times. Many of our staff members and loved ones have deployed overseas.

The loss of our staff members to deployment means many of those left behind are picking up extra duties and helping out any way they can. With JCAHO inspectors visiting next week and the task of integrating our reserve personnel into the workplace, the stress level has gone even higher.

In a time like this, it's easy to let the stress of the situation overwhelm you. It's important to remember to take care of yourself by eating healthy, exercising regularly and keeping a positive attitude. Spending quality time with your family and friends is also important, which I understand can be difficult to do during these demanding times.

In order for the organization to stay healthy, it's essential for us to work as a team and that means looking out for each other. Take a few moments to ask your co-workers how they are doing. Someone just might need your help.

We should not forget the stress our patients are feeling right now. Many of them also have loved ones in harm's way. Please continue to go the extra mile to give them the care they deserve. Our Patient Representative Office is here to address patient concerns. Please continue to support them.

I know you are working extremely hard to meet the mission. I want to thank you for the long hours and hard work you are doing.

I am extremely proud to be your commander. Hooah!

Col. Donald J. Kasperik

Training Opportunities

April Patient Safety Lecture Cancelled

April's Patient Safety Lecture has been cancelled due to the JCAHO Mock Survey. The next lecture is scheduled for May 12 from 12-1 p.m. in the hospital auditorium. The topic will be "An Overview of the Patient Safety Program."

For more information, please call 286-7097.

Sexual Harassment Training

Employee Prevention of Sexual Harassment Training is scheduled for April 15 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Supervisory Prevention of Sexual Harassment training is scheduled for April 16 from 8 a.m. to noon.

Both classes will be held at the Soldier Development Center, building 33009.

To sign up for either course, please call the Personnel Office at 286-7248.

Burn Care In-Service

A burn care in-service is scheduled for May 1 from 7:30-11 a.m. in the hospital auditorium. The training is open to all nurses and providers and is currently approved for 3 CEUs.

For reservations, please contact Capt. Jesse Ortel via Outlook.

Officer Professional Development Scheduled

OPD is scheduled for April 16 from 12-1 p.m. in the auditorium.

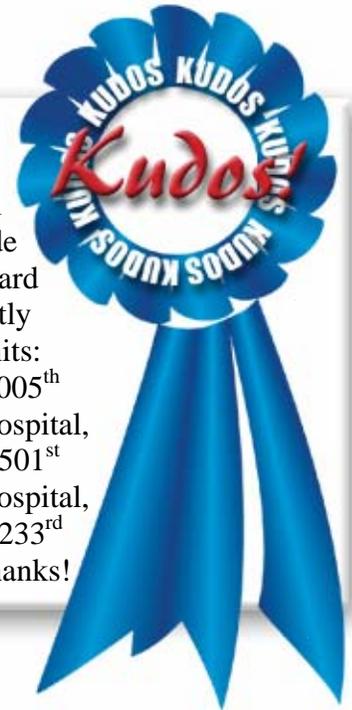
"Writing NCOERs and Awards" is the topic for this session presented by Command Sgt. Maj. John Reed.

Officers are required to attend one OPD class per quarter. This is the last scheduled OPD class for this quarter.

For more information, please call 286-7332.

Kudos to Reserve Personnel

Kudos to all the reserve personnel who have come to DACH to provide homeland mission support. Your hard work and dedication to duty is greatly appreciated. Thank you to these units: 807th Med. Bde., 2291st Hospital, 4005th Hospital, 4203rd Hospital, 4207th Hospital, 4211th Hospital, 4223rd Hospital, 5501st Hospital, 6253rd Hospital, 7210th Hospital, 7231st Medical Support Unit, and 7233rd and 7227th Blood Donor Units. Thanks!



Did You Know?

Laboratory Coat Information

Laboratory coats worn on a daily basis should be exchanged at least weekly. Coats can be exchanged more often if necessary to maintain a clean and professional appearance.

Linen Management Services is open Monday-Friday from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. For those providers who cannot make it to linen management to exchange their lab coats a clean coat can be delivered to you by calling 288-8776.

For more information, please call Annie Munn at 288-8476.

Summer Heat Season Begins

April 1 marked the beginning of the heat season. All of us should be aware of the potential for heat injury. Heat cramps and heat exhaustion are serious, but heat stroke is a medical emergency. Control efforts should be placed on prevention that includes proper training, water intake discipline, wearing proper clothing, monitoring salt intake, and attention to the wet bulb globe temperature index heat index.

For further information contact the Environmental Services Division, 1st Lt. Monje at 288-1661 or Sgt. Buchanan at 288-9112.



Hospital Funded Notary Publics

If you are a Texas State Notary Public and your Notary license was paid for by hospital funds, please respond by e-mail to Staff Sergeant Christopher G. Bell, Hospital Counsel NCOIC with your name, grade (GS or Military Rank), section, and phone.

This information is needed in order to improve Notary services throughout the Hospital.

For more information, please call 286-7021.

Volunteer Pianist Needed

The Dept. of Ministry and Pastoral Care is looking for a volunteer pianist to share his or her musical talent during the weekly chapel service at noon and the weekend chapel service at 9 a.m. in the hospital chapel.

If you are interested, please call 288-8849.

Col. Kasperik Memorial Golf Tournament Scheduled

In honor of Col. Kasperik's 26 years of dedicated service, a memorial golf scramble is scheduled for June 25 at noon. More detail will follow as the date approaches.

JCAHO Journal

JCAHO Mock Survey Tips

As the hospital prepares for next week's mock survey, it's important to brush up on a few items that we know the surveyors will be asking us about. Make sure that you are able to show where the closest fire extinguisher, fire alarm and oxygen shut-off are located in your work area. Know where your Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) is located. Be able to discuss your involvement in performance improvement. Of course, your human resource folder should be current and everyone should have one. Take a second look at medical records' master problem list to make sure entries are made. Know the Patient Safety Goals and what we are doing to satisfy them. You should be able to discuss our mission, vision, values and goals. Remember our strategic plan is our balanced scorecard. Most importantly, if a surveyor asks you a question that you don't understand, ask them to restate it so you understand it. If a surveyor asks you a question that you don't know the answer to, tell them you will check on it and get back with them...then get back with them.

JCAHO Champion Needed

A JCAHO Champion is needed for the functional area of Assessment of Patients. This champion would have no requirements prior to JCAHO. The champion is responsible for putting together a team to manage the chapter of the JCAHO manual concerning Assessment of Patients. JCAHO champions meet once a month and training is provided.

For more information, please Deborah La Pointe via e-mail.

APFT Dates Getting Closer

The semi-annual APFT is scheduled for April 21-24. Below is the current schedule:

Monday	6:15 a.m. start	Stadium
Tuesday	6:15 a.m. start	Railhead
Wednesday	6:15 a.m. start	Stadium
Wednesday	3:15 p.m. start	Stadium
Thursday	6:15 a.m. start	Railhead

Locations may change due to deployment operations or stadium conflicts. Personnel will be notified of changes through e-mail messages.

MEDDAC Safety Day Coming Up

MEDDAC Safety Day is scheduled for May 15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in front of the hospital's main entrance. Many vendors will be setting up booths, including Dermatology, Population Health, the Killeen Police and Fire Departments and many others. Consideration of Others credit will be give to participants.

For more info, please call 286-7381.