

**MEDICAL SUPPORT SQUADRON****PHARMACY NEWS**

Lt Col Rafael Diaz, the Pharmacy Flight Commander announced the departure of two clinical pharmacists Capt Rana & Capt McCaughn. In addition, he informed the latest pharmacy news which include the addition of the following drugs to our formulary list:

**COMBIPATCH    STRATERA**  
**GEODON                    ACTIVELLA**  
**YASMIN-28**

In addition to these drugs, DoD approved the following drugs to be added to the basic core formulary:

**ADVAIR                    EVISTA**  
**COMBIVENT                LANTUS**  
**ENTEX PSE                NEURONTIN**

In other national pharmacy news, Express Scripts assumed all responsibility for the TRICARE Mail Order Program (TMOP) beginning March 1, 2003. No major changes to the mail order pharmacy benefit are expected under the new contractor. Information about TRICARE pharmacy programs can be found at [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil) or you may call toll free at 1-800-DOD-MEDS (1-800-363-6337). Col Diaz reminded everyone that the best value for all beneficiaries remains the MacDill pharmacy services where all TRICARE beneficiaries can receive their prescriptions without out of pocket costs.

**Pharmacy Hours of Operation**

Hospital Pharmacy      M to F 0730 – 1700  
PharmaCARE              M to F 0730 – 1600  
(same day service)  
PharmaCare              M to F 0730-1700  
(same day pick up)  
BX Refill Pickup        M to F 0730 – 1700                      Sat.    0900 – 1200  
6 AMW Readiness Days - Closed  
6 MDG Readiness Training Days - Closed at 1200 hrs on second Thursday of each month

**MEDICAL RECORDS ... DID YOU KNOW?**

The full medical record is the property of the United States government and must be maintained at the 6th Medical Group. With few exceptions, patients have the right to access the information contained in the record and request copies. Maintenance of the medical record by the 6th Medical Group helps ensure continuity of care. Further, it facilitates timely inclusion of the patient's current health information in the record. Finally, it allows doctors easy access to important health history information for emergency, routine and specialty visits.

To request access to, or copies of, your medical record contact the Release of Information Clerk at (813) 827-9950.

**PATIENT PRIVACY**

By now, all sponsors residing in Florida should have received a Notice of Privacy Practices from the Military Health System. The Notice describes a patient's rights under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Any beneficiary who has not received a Notice may obtain one at all points of care in the 6th Medical Group, or from a Privacy Officer. The 6th medical group takes patient privacy very seriously and exercises the highest degree of care in handling sensitive patient information. Privacy Officers are always available to assist beneficiaries with their privacy-related questions or concerns. You may contact:

1st Lt Christine Rioux -- (813) 827-9991/9993  
Mr. Dale Landon -- (813) 828-4830  
Maj Daniel Knutson -- (813) 827-9715

(at MacDill Community Clinic-Brandon)

### **DENTAL SQUADRON**



Col Solomon reiterated the active duty family dental insurance plan is with United Concordia. To enroll or address any questions or concerns, please contact United Concordia at 1-800-866-8499 or visit the TRICARE Service Center located in bldg. #710 on base. For our retiree populace, Delta Dental insurance plan literature is available in the lobby of the Dental Clinic. The benefits of this plan have been expanded and will become effective as of 1 May 03.

The Dental Clinic's renovation project was completed in Dec 02. All dental treatment rooms received new state-of-the-art units. Due to an increase in the active duty population and the demand for care, it has become necessary to refer some patients requiring endodontic (root canal) treatment to the local economy.

No shows are still a problem in the dental clinic. The dental staff continues to work with dental monitors who assist in monitoring no shows and keeping abreast of problems associated with patients missing dental appts. Col Solomon stated that 24 hrs advance notice is needed to cancel an appt. otherwise, it will become a broken appt. Commanders are encouraged to get involved in helping us to solve the problem with broken appts. They are also kept informed of their personnel's Dental Readiness Classification to assess their deployability status.

### **MEDICAL OPERATIONS SQUADRON**



### **MACDILL COMMUNITY CLINIC -BRANDON**

We're excited to share that our beneficiary enrollment in the Brandon clinic is growing faster than we had anticipated. As such, we will be adding additional providers to our staff to accommodate this increase. Beginning next month, we will add a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and a Family Practice physician to our clinic, and should our resource sharing proposal become a reality, we will also see the addition of a civilian Internist, bringing our provider staff total to eight. At the present rate of enrollment, we anticipate reaching our enrollment goal for nine fulltime providers will be reached before 1 September.

Our staff has mailed out several thousand notices to parents regarding school physicals for their children and are encouraging them to arrange for their physicals to be accomplished as soon as possible in order to avoid the late summer rush for families requiring appointments that are transferring into the local area.

### **AEROSPACE MEDICINE SQUADRON**



### **POST DEPLOYMENT PROCESS**

DoD has established mandatory redeployment guidelines in an effort to ensure the health of our returning troops.

Force Health Management (FHM) has developed a very quick, easy, and almost painless process to assist our service members in meeting the 30 day suspense. FHM has incorporated Immunizations, Dental, and PIMR (Preventive Health Assessment and Individual Mobility Readiness) updating to the process to ensure everyone is current on their PHA requirements as well. The different facets of the process are as follows:

- Turn in DD Form 2766, Deployable Medical Record and DD Form 2796, Post Deployment Health Assessment to Force Health Management.
- Face – to – face health assessment appointment
- Blood serum drawn at laboratory
- Immunization update
- Dental update
- PIMR update

Thanks to the teamwork displayed by all entities involved, we've averaged a 1-day turn around from start to finish.

For further information please contact the Force Health Management Clinic at 827-9886.

### **SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST**

23 Jun 03 - 6 DS Change of Command Ceremony, incoming Commander - Ray Jeter, Lt Col, USAF, DC

14 Jul 03 – 6 MDSS Change of Command Ceremony, incoming Commander – Denise Burton, Lt Col, MSC

21 Jul 03 – 6 MDG Change of Command Ceremony, incoming Commander - Col Charles Mackett III, USAF, MC, FS



## **HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER 27 May 2003**

On 22 May 03, there was a ribbon cutting ceremony announcing of the Grand Opening of new TRICARE Service Center (TSC) from Gandy Blvd. The TSC has been relocated on base at building #710, next to the hospital. The Humana staff has merged with the 6 MDG TRICARE staff. We hope this will be better for our patients since now they can have their referrals made before they leave the hospital. Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday from 0730-1700.

This will be my last article for the HCCAC newsletter as I will be PCSing to Offutt AFB, Nebraska in July. It has been a pleasure taking care of you and your family members.

The next HCCAC meeting will be Tues., 26 Aug 03 at 1300 in the hospital briefing room.

*Alan D. Newton*

ALAN D. NEWTON, Col, USAF, DC  
Commander