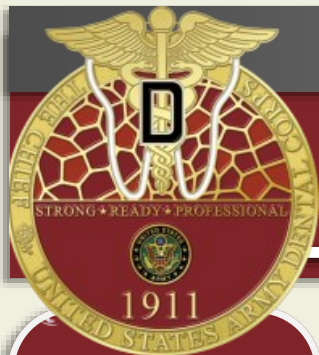


THE DENTAL CORPS BULLETIN



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JUNGLE OPERATIONS TRAINING COURSE

By: LTC Jacob England, Prosthodontic Mentor, Schofield Barracks and NaKoa Dental Clinics



How did this opportunity to attend the Jungle Operations Training Course occur?

When I first started my career in the Army, I had heard about Jungle School. It sounded like a fun adventure, and I had always thought if the opportunity presented itself, I would throw my name into the hat and give it the old college try. As fate would have it, I ended up getting assigned to Schofield Barracks, and all the right pieces fell into place.

Like most things in the Army, the Command was hesitant at first to let me go. Mostly, because it was something new, and the process to attend was not inherently obvious to the dental community. I really had to advocate for myself and do the leg work to make it happen. However, it was a good experience learning to work with my chain of command and networking with units outside of dental to help guide me through the process. Once I was able to show the command that I had all my ducks in row, they were all in with me. Follow-up was key!

Who is a good candidate to attend?

Anyone interested should throw their hat into the arena. The course is physical, but very doable to anyone in the Army. From my experience it was more of a mental and preparational game. If you train up in advance, the course just becomes a check on learning. The only variable after that is the mental game. How far can you push yourself? Now its in your hands to make it to the finish line.

What are the requirements to attend and graduate?

To graduate Jungle School, one must make it through the gear layout inspection and demonstrate they can tie all the required jungle knots, and rope systems. There is also a swimming and land navigation test. Once through test week, you spend the remaining time learning how to survive and fight in the jungle.

How long is the course and did you have to prepare ahead of time?

The course is 12 days. I spent about a month in total learning the jungle knots and acquiring all the required gear to go. I also refreshed my land navigation skills by jumping in a land nav lane with another unit.

Any tips or tricks for someone who has aspirations to attend in the future?

From my experience the best way to prepare for Jungle School is to look at the Lightning Academy's website to make sure you have all the required gear and know which knots to learn. They occasionally switch things up, and it is your responsibility to know the latest requirements.

The Lightning Academy has great videos on YouTube that teach you to tie the knots. Use that to help you learn and practice the standards. I also recommend reaching out to other units that have people that have gone through the school to help you prepare. In dental we meet everyone! Use this to your advantage to network. My biggest piece of advice is do not be afraid to fail! Get out there and give it a go. If it doesn't work out the first time, chalk it up as a learning opportunity and come back stronger and better prepared. Lastly, Don't Forget Your Short Chain!



TRAINING WITH THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

By: CPT Andrea Ciuro Sone, 63A, Brigade Dentist, Fort Drum, NY

There are days where putting on the uniform feels routine, but on other days give me a sense of gratitude and empowerment that reinforce the commitment I have as a Soldier. This past February, wearing our uniform, our American flag, and representing the Army Dental Corps with the Canadian Armed Forces, brought a unique perspective to my day-in-the-life as a military dentist. I had the opportunity to be selected and complete two weeks of intensive didactic and live-patient clinical training in surgical periodontics alongside colleagues from the Royal Canadian Dental Corps. Early mornings at the Canadian Health Services Training Center would start with discussion on relevant and classical research articles in periodontics as well as incorporation of patient case presentations to assess the diagnosis and best approach for sequencing periodontal treatment. During the course, I was able to reinforce my surgical skills by completing multiple cases of functional crown lengthening, osseous resective surgery, guided bone regeneration and ridge preservation servicing Canadian Active Duty and Reservist Soldiers. Hands-on days included the practice of surgical procedures in pig jaws, dental models for suturing lab and an implant placement short course provided by Nobel Biocare representatives.

While enriching my academic knowledge in the field, I reiterated that my passion for dentistry is driven by Periodontics and that my goal is to continue providing quality dental care to my patients in Garrison and at the Brigade level. As a 10th Mountain Division Brigade dentist at Fort Drum NY, I am able to operate dentistry in training and hostile environments for which I encounter a significant number of patients with periodontal problems; some of which can be treated with minimal equipment, and simple prescription regimens. Early diagnosis and intervention of disease is crucial for the readiness of our Soldiers and being able to complete a course in clinical periodontics allowed me to gain a better understanding of the sequence of events that certain procedures require, some of which I can still complete in the field as part of our tactical combat mission.

After completing the course, I feel more prepared to confidently treat Soldiers with periodontal conditions utilizing non-surgical and surgical techniques as well as proper treatment sequencing. As a former AEGD resident, this course allowed me to circle back to techniques and knowledge obtained during the program while learning different approaches to achieve excellent results on the same procedures.

This continued education (CE) opportunity is available through Army GDE in collaboration with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). Based on course scheduling and availability of positions, they allocate one spot for a U.S. Army Dental Corps Officer each year and the selection process is directly coordinated through the CAF and GDE by invitation. The course is geared towards officers interested in post graduate training in Periodontics, but regardless of your professional desires, it is a valuable opportunity to learn and become invested within the profession while having the chance to treat soldiers from the Canadian military and proudly represent our country.

I feel honored for having represented our profession in dentistry while embracing the values that portray being an American Soldier. Tactical combat courses within a Brigade position, clinical trainings within the Army Health System and learning from fellow military partners have allowed me to truly value the importance of living by our warrior ethos. With the guidance received from senior military leaders, I foresee a future in my career in where I can give back and contribute to our organization the same way I have received mentorship and support in my career as a junior officer.



TRAINING WITH THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

By: CPT Connor Guttman, 63A, General Dentist, JBSA, TX



Pictured from Left to Right: Lt Edgar Menoso (anesthesia nurse), CPT Connor Guttman, and CPT Blake Green (Canadian Armed Forces course participant).

The didactic portion covered a wide variety of topics, including performing a focused oral and maxillofacial exam, how to manage peri and post-operative complications, pharmacotherapeutics, IV placement, and more. Each course participant also had to prepare and present a pathology case. The clinical treatment portion was the highlight of the course and consisted solely of extracting impacted third molars in patients sourced from the adjacent military college. Course participants were paired together, and these pairs then rotated between acting as the provider and the assistant for each case. One attending was also present for each pair to administer the anesthesia and instruct the participants. Over the two weeks, more than 20 patients were seen and operated on by each pair. The heavy clinical emphasis of the course as well as the 2:1 ratio of participant to OMFS attending allowed me to gain experience and become comfortable operating on difficult third molar cases.

I am immensely grateful to have attended the course and believe I have advanced my surgical skills far beyond what I could have achieved in a typical dental setting. The course was run extremely well, and any unexpected issues were swiftly handled by the Canadian Armed Forces staff. I recommend it to anyone who is interested and especially for those who plan on applying to, or who have been selected for, an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residency.

I was selected for the Canadian clinical oral surgery short course mainly due to the support of my Command. As a recent dental school graduate currently in my snowbird year, my clinic and Command knew I had a keen interest in getting as much exposure to oral and maxillofacial surgery procedures as possible before starting residency. When my Commander learned of an opening in the course for a U.S. Army Dental Corps Officer, he quickly assessed my interest in attending and helped me put together and submit my application. The course itself took place over two weeks at Canadian Armed Forces Base Kingston, a base adjacent to the Royal Military College of Canada. I participated in the program alongside five Canadian dental officers under the mentorship of three OMFS attendings. The two weeks were comprised of 20 didactic lecture hours and 64 clinical treatment hours.



Pictured: CPT Guttman practicing initial maxillofacial trauma stabilization (Barton Bandage).



AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION: 2024 TOP 10 UNDER 10



Image by: American Dental Association.

In 2017, the New Dentist Committee developed the prestigious Top 10 Under 10 Award. Our Army Dental Corps' own MAJ Martin J. Smallidge has been honored with the ADA's prestigious **2024 10 Under 10 Award!**

This accolade is bestowed upon dentists who have graduated from dental school less than ten years ago and have demonstrated exemplary excellence, leadership, and inspiration in various domains including science, research & education, practice excellence, philanthropy, leadership, and advocacy.

The **ADA 10 Under 10 Award** is a highly selective honor, with MAJ Smallidge being chosen from over 145 nominations for his significant contributions and impact in the field of dentistry.

His hard work, dedication, and leadership continue to inspire us all and underscore the significant impact that one individual can have in advancing our collective mission.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SURVEY

The AEGD-2 Program at Lackland AFB is conducting tri-service research to assess the present educational needs and desires of the military dental workforce. **What type of CE do you prefer? In-person, conferences, webinars? What topics? Digital dentistry, implant restorations, ceramics? This survey will help support the development of our CE platforms.**

Please consider participating in this brief survey! (Less than 4 minutes to complete)

All active-duty general dentists are eligible to participate.

POC for questions: LT Catherine Cloetta catherine.n.cloetta.mil@health.mil

Please click on the link below to take the anonymous survey. Thank you!



IRB Exemption #: FWH20240068E

DHA Survey Control #: DHA-1123

Please right click **here** (select copy link location and paste into browser) for survey or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CS6NW58>.



AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63K, PEDIATRIC DENTIST

By: COL Tom Stark, Consultant in Pediatric Dentistry to the Surgeon General, Chief of Graduate Dental Education

It's been a successful and productive year for Army Pediatric Dentists. In addition to faithfully supporting family readiness and GDE missions, 63Ks have thrived in leadership positions within the Dental Corps, the Army, the DHA, and beyond. This edition of DC Bulletin contains articles on Children's Dental Health Month, a resident's perspective, 63K's experience in Korea highlighting the role pediatric dentists play in the Army. I invite you to take a look at the Army Story from the perspective of a 63K.

Pediatric dentists from across the enterprise took advantage of Children's Dental Health Month to promote oral health and have a bit of fun engaging with children in a classroom setting. COL Leslie Oakes (Rheinland-Pfalz) compiled a summary of the events from around the enterprise, and MAJ Debra Church (618th) shared a focused article on the 63K experience in Korea.

At present, the Army has three pediatric dentistry residents undergoing training at Texas A&M University School of Dentistry in Dallas, TX. CPT Liberman (first-year resident) has provided an overview of the program from the perspective of a resident. It is worth noting that last year's 2nd year resident, MAJ Matthew Keckeisen (Vicenza), won first place out of nearly 500 candidates at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) annual poster competition.

The 63K community celebrated the promotions of COL Oakes and LTC Stephanie Helmus (63K resident). Recently promoted MAJ Kevin Brunstein (Ft. Cavazos) and MAJ Nicole Collins (Bavaria) passed the oral examination and will be presented with diplomat pins signifying their board certification status at the AAPD annual meeting in Toronto, Canada. After achieving the milestone of board certification, pediatric dentists can become eligible for Fellowship status with the Academy of Pediatric Dentistry by demonstrating academic excellence, service, and leadership. Last year, LTC Christopher Luevano (Bethesda) and COL Brett Henson (Falls Church) became AAPD Fellows and earned the FAAPD designation.

Adding to the good news, LTC Min Kim (JBSA) was chosen as the primary select during the AMEDD Senior Service Board. He will begin training with the Department of Health and Human Services this summer. Other 63Ks serving in strategic/broadening assignments include LTC Kourtney Logan who is closing in on the final months of her Command of the 6th Medical Recruiting Battalion and LTC Luevano who is completing his tenure as a Dental Fellow with Health Affairs.

Finally, it is with a heavy heart that the 63K family bids farewell to COL Henson and MAJ Daniel Snow (Landstuhl). These 63Ks have provided invaluable service to military families and the US Army, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors. COL Henson has led a storied career with previous assignments as the Deputy Dental Corps Chief, 63K Consultant to The Surgeon General, HRC Dental Branch Chief, and DENTAC Commander to name a few. After retirement, COL Henson plans to practice pediatric dentistry in Kentucky. MAJ Snow has been a tremendous asset to the field and has been one of the most clinically productive 63Ks in recent years logging over 100 OR cases. He leaves us with some excellent photos of a full mouth dental rehabilitation case demonstrating a superb result for a military-connected child. We wish him the best as he and his family prepare for their next chapter in Florida.



COL Brett Henson



MAJ Daniel Snow





AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63K, PEDIATRIC DENTIST: 618th MED CO/ DENTAC-K

By: MAJ Debra Church, Pediatric Dentist, 618th MED CO/DENTAC-K

Pediatric dentists provide preventive and therapeutic oral health care for children ranging in age from infancy until late adolescence. Due to the age-specific specialty, pediatric dentists utilize additional skills such as advanced behavior guidance to include both protective stabilization and pharmacological management, supervision of orofacial growth and development, caries prevention, and hospital dentistry. To provide the best treatment for the ever-changing stages of development of a growing child, a pediatric dentist needs to be flexible and adaptable which also coincides with being a pediatric dentist in the Army.

Army pediatric dentists (63Ks) are assigned to both CONUS and OCONUS locations. Pediatric dentists assigned to Korea are part of 618th MED CO/DENTAC-K unit, which has a dual mission. Per the 618th MED/CO (DAS) Unit Share Point, the 618th Medical Company (Dental Area Support) provides operational dental care consisting of emergency and essential dental treatment in support of the Joint Force. Dental Health Activity-Korea sustains a ready medical force during armistice throughout the Korean Theater of Operations under the command and control of the Dental Health Command-Pacific and under the direction of Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital (BDAACH), Defense Health Network-Indo Pacific and the Defense Health Agency. It is the only dental organization in the Army's inventory that has a dual MTOE/TDA mission. To support the dual mission, it is imperative for a 63K to be flexible while assigned to Korea.

Pediatric dentists spend most of their time supporting family readiness by providing day to day comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health care for USFK beneficiaries. Routine dental care, like exams and restorative treatment, is provided at Carius Dental Clinic. Pediatric patients that are unable to cooperate for full mouth dental rehabilitation due to young age, extensive caries, or poor behavior are seen at BDAACH for full mouth dental rehabilitation under general anesthesia in the operating room. 63Ks spend a significant amount of time in the clinic, but also support community outreach events like baby expos, healthy lifestyle events, and organize dental screenings for National Children's Health Month at Camp Humphrey's elementary schools. These events provide a great opportunity to promote oral health for the community.

When 63Ks are not in clinic, they are usually supporting the dual mission by participating in 618th MED/CO (DAS) operations and maintaining warrior tasks. Some of these warrior tasks include weapons training, tactical communications, Tactical Combat Casualty Care, and CBRNE training. Occasionally 63Ks also participate in Motor Pool Mondays for preventive maintenance checks and services on 618th MED/CO (DAS) equipment. 63Ks typically participate in the biannual field training exercises either setting up field equipment, supporting Soldier readiness, and maintaining their Individual Critical Task List. Due to 63Ks already knowing how to adapt to the ever-changing child, they easily adapt to the constant changing demands of the dual mission unique to Korea and are committed to supporting both the needs of military families and the dual mission of 618th MED CO/DENTAC-K.



Pictured from Left to Right: 618th MED CO/ DENTAC-K Soldiers of the 618th MAJ Debra Church (63K), CPT Tammy Luk, LTC Christy Lee, SPC Govind Ghimirey, and CPT Jin Kwon at the Medical Management of Chemical and Biological Casualties Short Course in South Korea.



Pictured from Left to Right: MAJ Debra Church and LTC Christy Lee at the M17 Qualification Range.

AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63K, PEDIATRIC DENTIST

By: COL Leslie Oakes, Pediatric Dentist, Baumholder Dental Clinic

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it's packed with many notable days to include Groundhog's Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day and the Super Bowl. While football fans look forward to cheering on their favorite teams each year (and maybe catch a glimpse of Taylor Swift!), Pediatric Dentists across the DOD have been preparing for their own version of the Super Bowl – National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM)!

NCDHM, celebrated annually in February, is an initiative aimed at educating children and their families about the importance of oral health. Many of the 63Ks across the DOD also use this opportunity to perform dental screenings to identify any urgent dental health care needs in their communities. With military children twice as likely to join the military when they become adults and more than 25% of troops having at least one parent in the military, from a Dental Readiness perspective, some could argue that 63Ks are the first line of defense for Dental Readiness for our Servicemembers!

A look at how 63Ks across the DOD celebrated NCDHM this year...



Chompers vs. Mr. Gross Mouth



DHA-Hawaii: LTC Loc Dang (63K Mentor, AEGD – 2YR) gave a presentation and performed dental screenings to over 1500 elementary students at Schofield Barracks. *Pictured:* LTC Loc Dang (63K), CPT Jazmin Jones (Future 63K), SPC An Nguyen, and Mr. Jonathan Ceredon.

Ft. Irwin DCC: COL Brent Clark (63K) and his team at the National Training Center, Ft. Irwin, CA performed dental education and screenings on over 500 children (including an astronaut!) at Lewis Elementary School and Tiefort View Intermediate School. The screenings resulted in 21 Children being identified as having urgent dental health care needs. *Pictured:* COL Brent Clark (63K) and SPC Cristina Sanchez-Hernandez perform a dental screening on an elementary school student at Ft. Irwin, CA.



618th MED CO/DENTAC-K: MAJ Debra Church (63K), sole Active Duty pediatric dentist on the South Korean peninsula, assembled a team to perform dental screenings on over 1500 elementary students on Camp Humphreys.



AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63K, PEDIATRIC DENTIST

By: COL Leslie Oakes, Pediatric Dentist, Baumholder Dental Clinic

Ft. Cavazos, TX: MAJ Kevin Brunstein (63K Mentor, AEGD—2YR), pictured on right, utilized his diverse Team of Tri-Service 63B residents representing the Army, Navy, and Coast Guard, as well as a provider from the 502 DCAS and an Army Reservist, to give a dynamic presentation across two elementary schools and 5 Child Development Centers (CDC) on Ft. Cavazos. In addition, MAJ Brunstein and MAJ Eric Hu (63F Mentor, AEGD – 2YR) collaborated to write an article for the Fort Cavazos Sentinel: "5 Tips to Keep Your Child's Smile Happy and Healthy" https://cavazosentinel.com/living/healthworks/five-tips-to-keep-your-child-s-smile-happy-healthy/article_0bdc2e8e-c082-11ee-b6e4-b796dcfb86c8.html. LCDR Beau Shaw (1st Year AEGD-2YR resident, USN), pictured on the left, brought his collection of animal skulls. Here he is showing the kids a shark jaw!



National Capital Region (NCR): LTC Christopher Luevano, 63K, stepped away from his current position as a special assistant for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (OASD/HA) to partner with 63K colleagues at the Naval Postgraduate Dental School (NPDS) and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) in Bethesda, MD to provide outreach to military children across the NCR to include Walter Reed, Ft. Meade, Ft. Myer, Annapolis, and the Forest Glen CDC. *Pictured:* LTC Christopher Luevano (63K- front left) with Pediatric dentists from the NCR CDR Karen Li (Pediatric Dentistry Mentor, NPDS), CDR Bradley Bennett (Pediatric Dentist, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center), Dr. Clay Cheung (Pediatric Dentist, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center) and residents from the NPDS AEGD – 2 Program at the Annapolis, MD CDC.

DHA Rheinland-Pfalz: Baumholder Dental Clinic: COL Leslie Oakes (63K) and her team provided an interactive oral health presentation to 350 children in the Baumholder military community. Children participated in age-appropriate activities and discussions to include dressing up like a dentist, choosing between healthy and unhealthy snacks, practicing brushing and flossing on puppets and dental models, sealant application, trauma prevention, dental xrays, braces, and dental trivia. Some students were also invited to participate in a 2-minute plank challenge to demonstrate what 2 minutes of toothbrushing really feels like! In addition, COL Oakes was invited to a dental Q & A for Sure Start parents and had 16 parents in attendance. *Pictured:* CPL Lerma, COL Oakes, SPC Davis and 2nd grade students performing the 2-minute plank challenge to see how long 2 minutes of brushing should feel like!



AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63K, PEDIATRIC DENTIST

By: COL Leslie Oakes, Pediatric Dentist, Baumholder Dental Clinic

Landstuhl Specialty Dental Clinic: MAJ Daniel Snow (63K) and his team performed dental education and screenings on Sure Start through 5th grade students at Sembach Elementary School. 30 students were identified as having visible dental care needs. *Pictured Left to Right:* LTC David Redmond (63B), SPC Chanda Devkota, PFC Tionna Wynn, Ms. Myranda Faltysek, and MAJ Daniel Snow (63K).



DHA Bavaria: MAJ Nicole Collins (63K) and her team held a tooth trivia and oral hygiene class for the K-5th graders at Grafenwoehr Elementary School. *Pictured on Left:* Ms. Ingrid Luttrell (RDH), MAJ Nicole Collins (63K), Ms. Sandra Winkler and SSG Betzaida Burgos Rivera. *Pictured on Right:* MAJ Collins quizzing students at Grafenwoehr Elementary School on dental facts.

DHA Vicenza: COL Kevin Parker (Commander and 63K) and MAJ Matthew Keckeisen, along with their team of soldiers and civilians (SPC Genesis Mencias, SPC Tayraliz Martinez, PFC Belen Martinez, and Ms. Melissa Campbell) demonstrated community engagement by conducting dental screenings for 495 children, Kindergarten through the 5th grade at USAG Italy, Vicenza Elementary School. *Pictured:* MAJ Keckeisen (63K) and MAJ Parker (63R/63K) at Vicenza Elementary School's CDHM event.

There were several military communities that do not have a pediatric dentist but took the initiative to host their own CDHM event. The 63K Community would like to thank everyone that helped support this DOD-wide event! If there are any dental clinics that don't currently participate in CDHM but are interested in going to the "Super Bowl" next year, reach out to any of your friendly 63Ks for ideas on how to start an event. Every year is a winning Super Bowl year for CDHM!



AOC SPOTLIGHT: 63K: WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A PEDIATRIC RESIDENT

By: CPT David Liberman, Pediatric Resident, Texas A&M University

Texas A&M University pediatric dentistry residency, located in the heart of Dallas, Texas, is where Army pediatric dentistry (63K) residents embark on a two-year journey to the land of early childhood caries, medically-compromised patients, advanced behavior guidance techniques, and an incredible clinical experience.

While first-year residents take classes about craniofacial malformations, growth and development, research design, and statistics, second-year residents mainly focus on patient care and preparing for written and oral board exams.

On a routine basis, residents may be required to treat medically compromised patients with multiple complicating factors. For example, a resident may need to work up a restorative and surgical treatment plan for an anxious 4-year-old with DiGeorge Syndrome, tetralogy of Fallot, ventricular septal defect, cleft palate, adenotonsillar hypertrophy, and autism. Due to behavior and medical complexity, treatment in the operating room under the care of multiple medical specialists and a pediatric anesthesia team is indicated.

Residents primarily provide specialty care for patients with medical complexities and special health care needs at Children's Medical Center. Advanced behavior guidance techniques (e.g. moderate sedation, protective stabilization, general anesthesia) may also be needed to safely treat these children. As such, residents must utilize their pediatric medicine and anesthesia training in order to provide necessary dental care for children with bleeding disorders, cardiac concerns, seizure disorders and many other conditions.

Since Children's Medical Center is one of the busiest pediatric emergency departments in the country, residents gain valuable experience managing pediatric emergencies. First and second year residents pair up for a week at a time to manage after hours infections, avulsions, and fractured teeth.

Resident's basic behavior guidance skills are refined at Texas A&M's graduate pediatric clinic and various community dental clinics. Pediatric dentists learn to become Jedi masters of distraction and tell-show-do techniques to help fearful children through a procedure. Convincing children they will receive a colorful bubble in their gums rather than a shot takes skill and practice.

There's never a dull moment as 63K residents travel between multiple clinics, hospitals, operating rooms, emergency rooms, and lecture halls. Residents may be puked on, poked at, or hugged depending on the day and the patient.



All Wrapped Up:
Pictured from Left to Right: CPT Dave Liberman, MAJ Dave Flanders, and LTC Stephanie Helmus demonstrating the advanced behavior guidance technique of protective stabilization.



DENTAL READINESS COMMAND—WEST



COL Stefan Olpinski, DRC-W Commander and SGM Isidro Soriano Armendariz, DRC-W Command Sergeant Major

Fort Cavazos:

On 10 January 2024, Fort Cavazos Dental Activity conducted their monthly Junior Enlisted Professional Development in regards of Army Ignited, Tuition assistance and credentialing.

Fort Sill:

Fort Sill DENTAC is continuing to build strong teams across the Fort Sill and Lawton communities. Currently they have signed an agreement with the Lawton Veteran's Administration (VA) to allow select VA personnel to be seen in our facilities. They have built a relationship with the Reynolds Army Community Clinic (RACH) IOT allow DENTAC Soldiers opportunities for weapons qualifications. DENTAC conducted Commander's Call on 26 January 2024. At the event, Awards and Recognitions were presented, the Equal Employee Opportunity (EEO) Office and Sexual Harassment and Assault Response Program (SHARP) office introduced themselves, the Commander went over the DEOCS Plan of Action, and classes on "True Colors" and Awards were given. MAJ Passey was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for distinguishing herself by winning the FY23 Bernier Dental Research Competition for her project "Comparison of Flexural Strength and Porosity of Common 3D Printed Denture Base Acrylic Resins."





DENTAL READINESS COMMAND—WEST

Fort Sill:



Currently the team is deliberately focusing on Individual Critical Task (ICT) training for both our Officers and Enlisted Soldiers. MAJ Bedoya and SGT Francis have been inputting ICTs into the Defense Training Management System (DTMS) to reflect more accurate ICT numbers.

SSG Graves will be attending the ACE-SI Course in efforts to strengthen mental health care and suicide prevention awareness within the unit.

SFC Hernandez is working with Mr. Silerio on errors with Ft. Sill's MEDPROS and CDS reports. In addition, they are working on how Ft. Sill can pull more accurate readiness and wellness numbers in the meantime.

Fort Johnson:

Working with units to decrease failed appointments, DENTAC is compiling number of failed/rescheduled appointments during the block leave to push out to units. DENTAC has begun sending out pending appointments list for the month to the DIV SURG cell for month of JAN in an effort to increase command awareness and compliance.

The MTF is assisting with getting the outlying DTF's in the TJC mindset by sending Tracer teams into our facilities and address areas that will be graded by the accreditation team. The MTF TJC provided valuable tracer information that will be used to assist with didactic and hands-on training for DENTAC Infection Control training.

CPT's McCormick/Choe (Shira DC/Chesser DC)-63A and MAJ Martinez-63F are being recognized for conducting Phase I of II DENTAC Infection Control Training. These providers put together a very in-depth face to face and hands-on training at Chesser Dental clinic.

Fort Bliss:

Pictured:

SGT Allen FT Bliss DENTAC NCO of the Year
SPC Engle FT Bliss DENTAC Soldier of the Year
Winners/Candidates and NCOs that helped make the competition happen.



DENTAL READINESS COMMAND—WEST

Fort Riley:

Fort Riley DENTAC Command team participated in the Military Affairs Council breakfast on 25 Jan with COL Micheal Foote, Fort Riley Garrison Commander speaking.

Fort Riley DENTAC team has been working tirelessly on the 2024 Tri-Command Best Leader Competition to ensure the event is a success.

The Fort Riley DENTAC continues to support Fort Riley's mission of becoming an efficient Mobilization Force Generating Installation (MFGI). The DENTAC is prepared to provide feedback, guidance, and support to future mobilizations.

Fort Huachuca:

FHAZ DCC won \$250 in unit funds for having the largest group participation at Fort Huachuca's Right Arm Night (RAN) at the Thunder Mountain Activity Center. RAN is an event held by the Fort Huachuca Army Garrison and MWR every other month with food, drinks, games, and numerous sponsors to foster esprit de corps and build the community.

GRADUATION HIGHLIGHT

On Tuesday, 05 March 2024, SFC Nicole Oglesby, the Fort Liberty DENTAC Senior Enlisted Leader, graduated from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Department of Defense (DoD) Equal Opportunity Advisor Course (EOAC) Class 24-1. Great job, SFC Oglesby!





CONTINUING EDUCATION

Discuss these opportunities with your Command and Professional Development Officer.

Captain Career Course (CCC)

Phase 1 is now required. Visit <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrscc/> and search Course # 6-8-C22 for available dates. Submit signed DA3838 to HRC, DC Professional Development Officer.

MedXellence Course

The MedXellence course was mandated approximately 40 years ago to help meet prerequisites for senior level staff and command positions within the MHS. The most up to date scheduling information for MedXellence can be found at the following website: <https://medschool.usuhs.edu/pmb/education/medxellence>.

The website has the dates and registration links for the remaining MedXellence courses for the current fiscal year. Of note, the San Diego course is full, but there is still room at the San Antonio course at the end of this month and the Germany course in August.

Remaining 2024 class dates are:

1. **April 28th - May 3rd, 2024** - San Antonio, Texas
2. **June 9th - 14th, 2024** - San Diego, California
3. **August - 11th - 16th, 2024** - Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany
4. **October - 21th -23rd, 2024** - Virtual Course

If you have other questions, please do not hesitate to contact the POCs below. Thank you for your assistance and interest. POC: LT Goodrich or Mr. Tinling - tyson.goodrich@usuhs.edu; walter.tinling@usuhs.edu.

Intermediate Level Education (ILE)

The primary method of completion is distance learning ILE. Submit signed DA3838 to HRC, DC Professional development Officer.

Expert Field Medical Badge (EFMB)

EFMB training and information can be found on the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence website: <https://medcoe.army.mil/efmb>. Testing for EFMB is conducted annually at multiple sites across the Army.

Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS)

[Brigade Healthcare Provider Course](#)

[Tactical Combat Medical Course](#)

Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute (DMRTI)

[Combat Casualty Care Course \(C4\)](#)



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Joint Medical Executive Skills Program

Visit <https://www.health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Education-and-Training/LEADS/JMESI>

for information on the following courses: Healthcare Management Course, JMESI Intermediate Executive Skills, Capstone Course for Military Health System Leaders.

Joint Senior Medical Leader Course

Capabilities Development Course

Defense Strategy Course

Army Ignited

Army Credentialing Assistance

General Questions to the Army Dental Corps:

usarmy.jbsa.medical-coe.mbx.dental-corps@army.mil

Army Dentistry at Work Podcast:

iTunes: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/army-dentistry-at-work/id1536441689>

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/show/7Hsmc2LwT0OR43yI01ZD7k?si=2w0srT76TQi2knGTkaVwWw>

Stitcher: <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/army-dentistry-at-work>

LibSyn: <https://armydentistryatwork.libsyn.com/website>

