

MEDICAL NEWS

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81ST MDG GRADUATES 39 PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS

By Col. Martha Ann Stokes
81st Medical Group director of medical education

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — Thirty-nine physicians and dentists were honored June 11 during a formal graduation ceremony conducted in the Keesler Medical Center's Don Wylie Auditorium. The event marked their completion of internship and residency training.

Retired Lt. Gen. Clark Griffith, former Air Education and Training Command vice commander, delivered the commencement address. Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Kory Cornum, 81st Medical Group commander, was the presiding officer.

The General Surgery Residency program graduated four surgeons from a five-year program, the largest general surgery residency platform in the Air Force. Surgery residents receive some of the most comprehensive training available in the Department of Defense with rotations to Eglin Air Force Base and Pensacola Naval Medical Center, Fla.; Biloxi VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System, Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio; the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson and Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany.

Other physician graduates included eight residents with three years of specialty training in internal medicine. This is a very comprehensive training platform which also includes rotations at other facilities such as the Biloxi VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. This ensures all graduates receive balanced instruction in all of the core competencies evaluated by the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education.

Physicians who completed these programs are eligible to take board certification examinations in their specialty and are assigned to hospitals in the United States and overseas. One of the graduating general surgery residents was selected for fellowship training in vascular medicine and two internal medicine graduates were selected for fellowships in pulmonary/critical care. Eight internal medicine and three general surgery graduates who completed one-year internships will continue their residency training at Keesler Medical Center.

Nine graduating dentists completed a one-year Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency program. They received advanced training in all of the dental specialties including oral surgery, endodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics, pedodontics and orthodontics. They will be assigned as military dentists throughout the world. Keesler hosts the largest one-year Advanced Education in General Dentistry program in the Air Force and is transitioning to a two-year program for the 2013-2014 academic year.

★ See Graduates page 5



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Justin W. Galvin/Parental Consent Form Complete)
Marine Cpl. Monica Boelk and husband Allen Boelk pose with their son Jayce Odin Boelk during a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) reunion event at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS). Jayce was born Oct. 11, 2012 weighing 13 ounces and measuring 10.25 inches, making him the smallest known baby born at the hospital. The event welcomed back patients, families and staff with an afternoon of music, fun and games.

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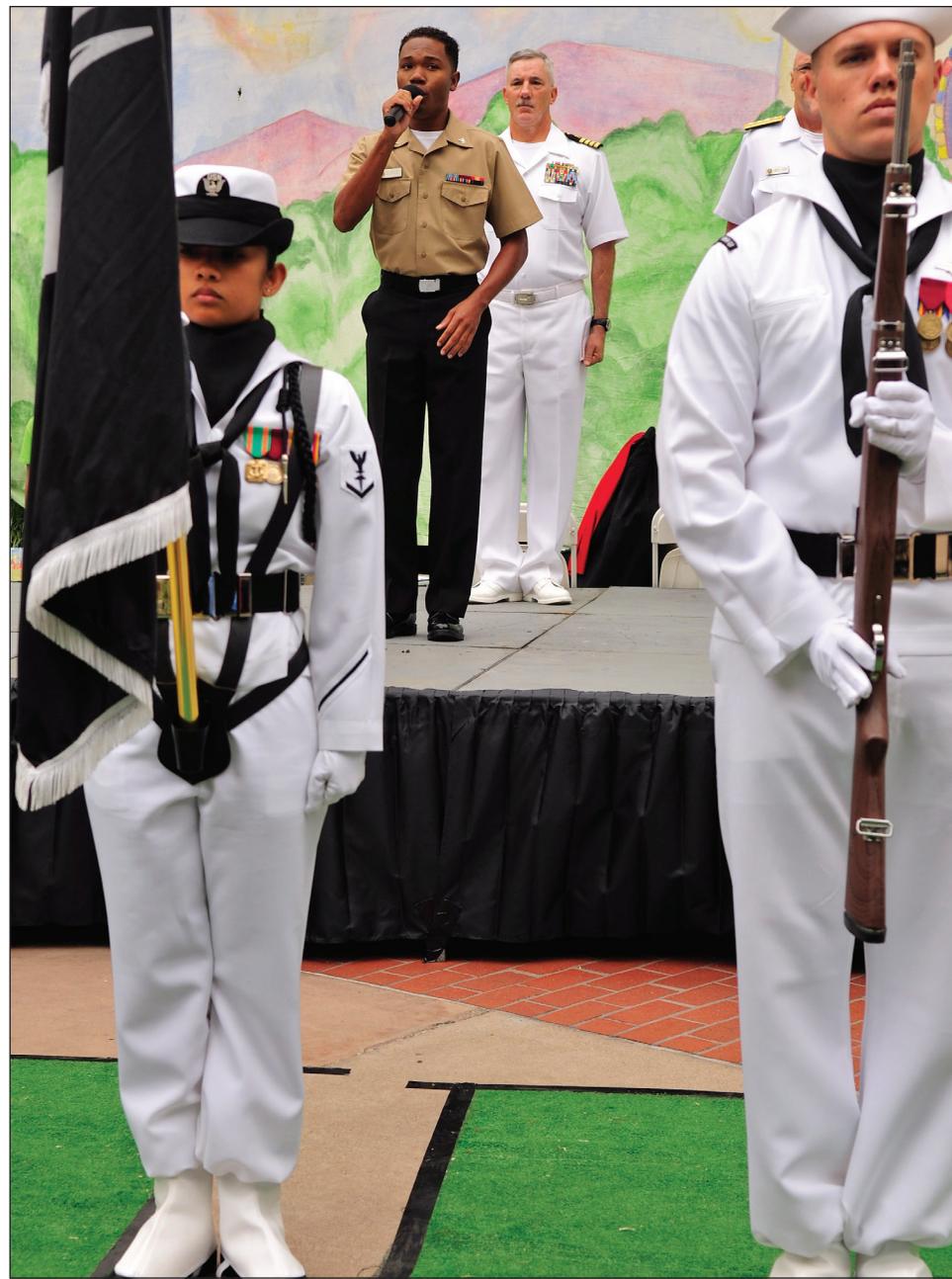
(U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Justin W. Galvin/
Parental Consent Form Complete)

Above: Janice Reinicke, known as Pockets the Clown, paints a colorful design on the face of Chloe Morris, daughter of Cecil and Joy Morris, during a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) reunion event at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS).

Right: Navy Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Adrian P. Durio, assigned to the pharmacy at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS), sings the National Anthem.



Magician Dana Law performs with the help of Kaitlyn Legarreta, daughter of Boatswains Mate 2nd Class Norberto Legarreta, during a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) reunion event at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS).



Military Medical News

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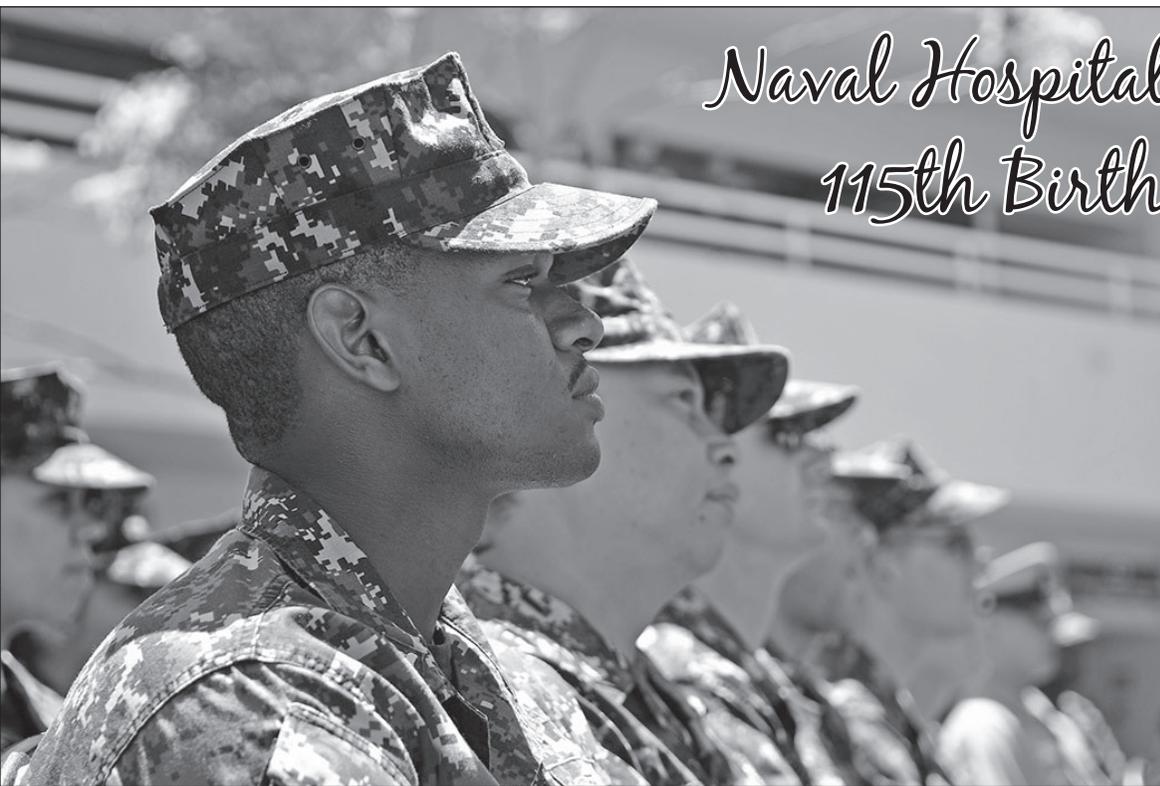
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Naval Hospital Corps' 115th Birthday



Above left: Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Romeo Sali, assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS) Preventive Medicine department, listens to a speaker during a ceremony celebrating the Navy Hospital Corps' 115th birthday. Since the Hospital Corps' founding on June 17, 1898, its personnel have deployed with Sailors and Marines around the world, providing lifesaving care and critical mission support aboard ships, in the air, under the sea and on the battlefield. The Hospital Corps is the largest and most decorated rating in the Navy. Twenty naval ships have been named after hospital corpsmen. Since 1919, 178 corpsmen have received the Navy Cross. In the Vietnam War alone, hospital corpsmen received four Medals of Honor, 31 Navy Crosses, 127 Silver Stars, and 291 Bronze Stars for heroics under fire.

Above right: Rear Adm. C. Forrest Faison III, commander, Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS) and Navy Medicine West speaks at the Navy Hospital Corps' 115th birthday.

Right: (From left to right) Hospitalman Recruit Aaliyah Gonzalez, Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS) Command Master Chief Yenhung Duberek, Commander, NMCS and Navy Medicine West Rear Adm. C. Forrest Faison III, and Chief Hospital Corpsman Sanchito Noveno participate in a ceremonial cake-cutting during the Navy Hospital Corps' 115th birthday celebration.



(U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Pyoung K. Yi/Released)

NMCS's anesthesiology department earns continued accreditation

By Mass Communication Specialist
Seaman Justin W. Galvin
Naval Medical Center San Diego Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO — Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS) anesthesiology department has earned its Continued Accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) through April 2018.

According to the ACGME website, their mission is to improve health care by assessing and advancing the quality of resident physicians' education through exemplary accreditation. The purpose is to provide training programs of good educational quality in each medical specialty.

"It was the department's commitment to education, research and clinical teaching that made it possible for us to earn this accreditation," said Cmdr. (Dr.) Eugenio Lujan, Anesthesiology Residency Program Director.

NMCS prepared for the ACGME accreditation through a step-by-step method to ensure the processes

were in compliance with ACGME. First, NMCS submitted the required application documents to the ACGME. Then in return, the ACGME sent field staff knowledgeable in the program to review the department and compose an objective report of their findings.

According to Lujan, the prep work started in the summer of 2012 and consisted of editing application documents in a process that took more than six months.

Lt. Nicole M. King, an anesthesiology resident, explains why it was important to her that this program has been accredited.

"This program consistently strives to make improvements so that our educational experience is the best there is, in or out of the military," said King. "It is a relief to know that your program will continue to be in good standing throughout your time as a resident."

ACGME Executive Director Lorraine C. Lewis explained that after the thorough review, the field staff's findings are submitted to a review committee

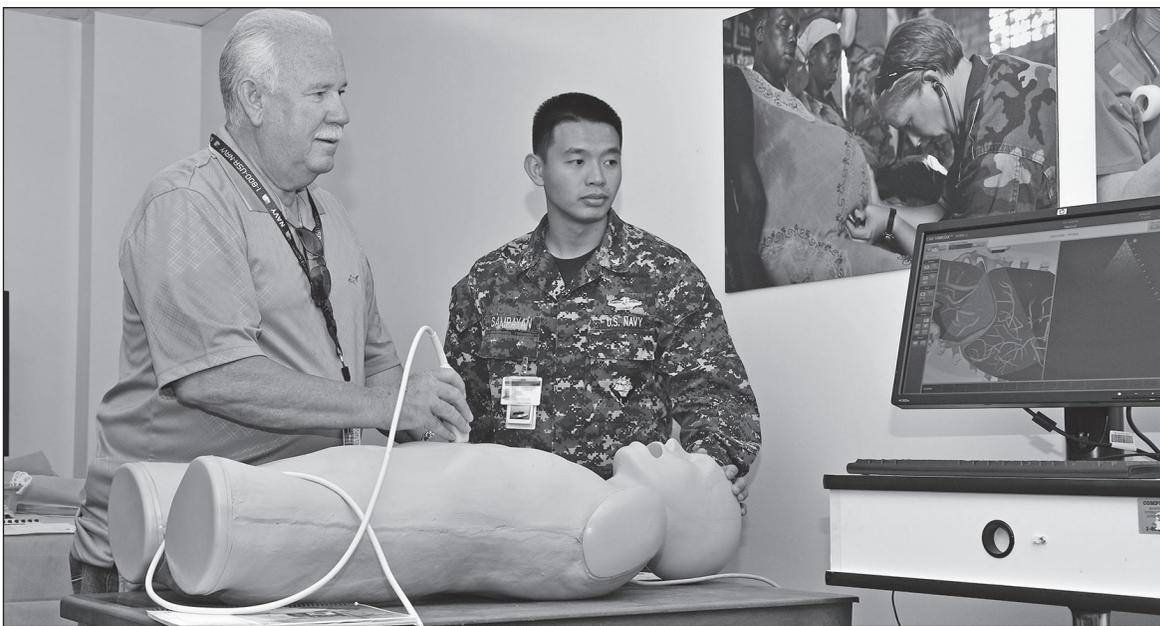
where ACGME makes a judgment on the accreditation request.

NMCS's anesthesiology department was found in compliance and therefore ACGME was able to grant the continued accreditation.

The NMCS anesthesiology residency program has a long history, dating back to 1958. The program's dedication to providing the highest level of academic and clinical training has resulted in full ACGME accreditation since 2008, 100% written board pass rates, and a legacy of graduates who have achieved professional success.

The military-unique curriculum and rotations, such as humanitarian assistance aboard USNS Mercy (T-AH-19), allow residents to reinforce their anesthesiology skills through additional training and practice in austere and operational environments.

"Unlike civilian training programs, we employ 100% of our graduates," said Lujan, "thus we have a vested interest in the physicians we produce."



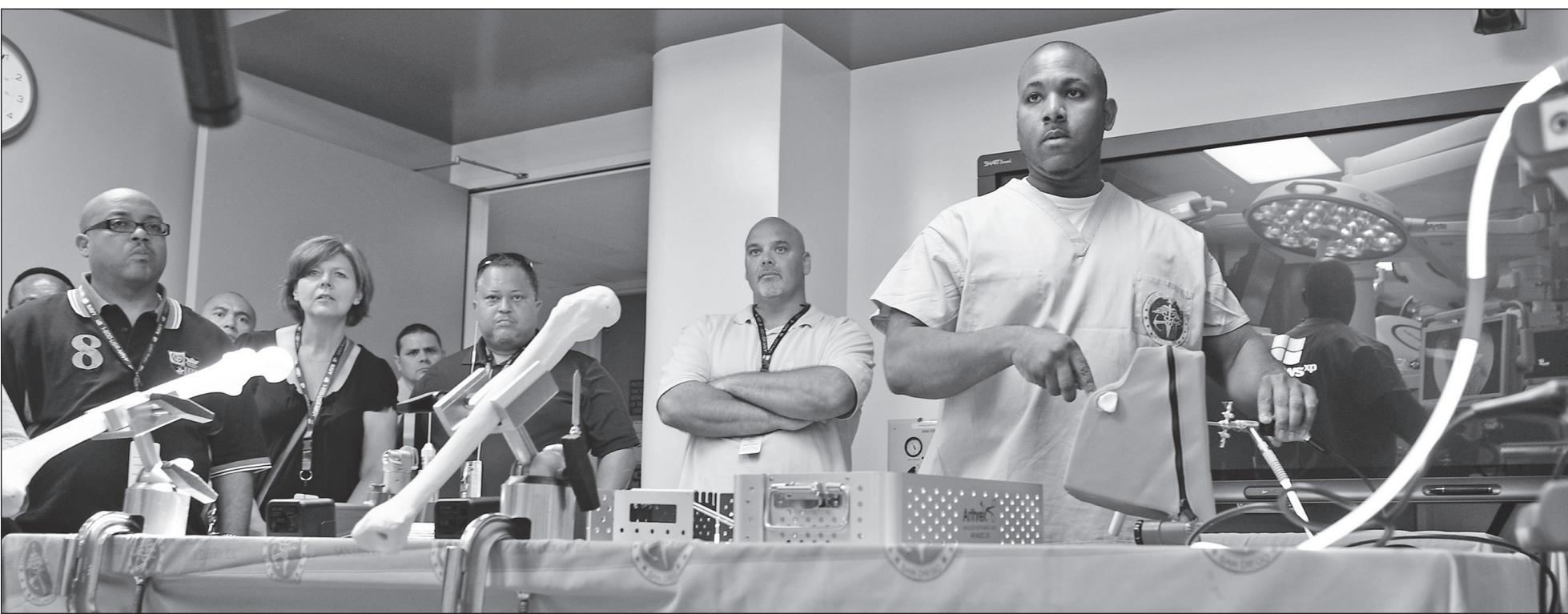
Navy Recruiting

(U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist Justin W. Galvin/Released)

Top left: Jerry Orsak, Assistant Principle at Cy-Fair High School in Cypress, Texas and member of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston, works an ultrasound on a manikin in Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS D) Medical and Surgical Simulation Center (MSSC) alongside Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Conrado Sampayan, NMCS D's Directorate for Professional Education. The members of NRD Houston are educators from the Houston area who traveled through Southern California learning about the career options available to Navy personnel.

Center left: Jerry Orsak, Assistant Principle at Cy-Fair High School in Cypress, Texas and member of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston, drills into a replica femur alongside Shawn Meertens, Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS D) Bioskills Training Center (BTC) Assistant during a visit by NRD Houston to NMCS D.

Bottom: Shawn Meertens, Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS D) Bioskills Training Center (BTC) Assistant, demonstrates the use of a shoulder scope on a replica shoulder to members of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston during a visit to NMCS D.



Medical center innovates for community health

By 2nd Lt. Allanna Jones
81st Training Wing Public Affairs

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. -- Technology is an ever-changing realm that has contributed to the efficiency of day-to-day life.

At Keelser Medical Center, Major (Dr.) Oliver Wisco and Major (Dr.) Jennifer Alfar from the dermatology department have taken medical evaluations to a whole new level with the Hospital Without Walls Program.

A more official title for the program is, Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes and more commonly called eConsult, it is a collaborative effort launched simultaneously as a tri-service effort across the Department of Defense as well as with our Federal healthcare partners, the VA and the Indian Health Service.

The eConsult allows easier access for primary care providers to have the ability to seek consultation from specialists via electronic media.

"The program was put in place because we wanted something mobile," said Wisco, dermatology clinic chief. "With the limited number of specialty doctors, this program will help primary care

"A lot of cases we see can be easily treated by the primary care providers but because it's not their specialty the patients get sent to us. This is where the eConsult could be utilized."

—Major (Dr.) Oliver Wisco

providers perform, by creating an education platform and eliminating the need to see a specialist depending on the severity of the case."

There are more patients being sent to dermatology than there are physicians available to assist them. Most bases don't even have a dermatology department, so patients are referred to off base dermatologists.

"A lot of the cases we see can be easily treated by the primary care providers but because it's not their specialty the patients get sent to us," said Wisco. "This is where the eConsult could be utilized. The program will free up specialty doctors to see severe cases and expand primary care providers' knowledge of symp-

toms and care options."

"The electronic media interface that will be used are Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act secure so there are no issues with patient confidentiality," said Wisco.

Wisco said the program supports cost conscience culture by saving off base consult fees while saving money the program will also provide patients with the best dermatology care, availability of up-to-date specialty care and near real-time feedback to PCMs.

Though this program is still in the planning stage with no exact date for release, there is great promise in this cost and time saving endeavor said Wisco.



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Pyoung K. Yi/Released)

Functions of a prosthetic leg

Brian Zalewski (left), Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) head prosthetist, explains the functions of a prosthetic leg to Stephen J. Hemsley (right), president and chief executive officer of United Health Group, during a visit to NMCS D's Comprehensive Combat and Complex Casualty Care (C5) facility. The goal of the visit was to learn about NMCS D's capabilities in treating wounded, ill and injured service members.

★ Graduates

Continued from page 1

Two dental graduates completed a two-year residency in endodontics. The first year of didactics and research was accomplished at LSU School of Dentistry in New Orleans with the predominately clinical portion completed at Keesler the second year. This is the perfect program for Keesler as the endodontic residents help provide supervised teaching for the AEGD program as part of their curriculum. Both endodontic graduates will be assigned stateside following graduation.

The graduates were:

General Surgery

Fifth-year postgraduates: Maj. (Dr.) Mark Lytle and Capts. (Drs.) Andrea Blake, Hampton McClendon and David Thomas

First-year postgraduates: Capts. (Drs.) George Fulghrum, William Goncharow, Michelle Medintz, Marcia Miranda, Theresa Stockinger and Olivia Vaughan

Internal Medicine

Third-year postgraduates: Maj. (Dr.) Daniel Hatcher and Capts. (Drs.) Adrian Barron, Timothy Davis, Matthew Fain, Andrew Maley, Talayeh Rezayat, Benjamin Smith and Derek Smith

First-year postgraduates: Capts. (Drs.) Julie Davenport, Amanda Deans, Joshua Donart, Benjamin Huang, Christin Laufer, Shannon McCarthy, Candace-Rose Pace, Margaret Tajak and Andy Welstead

Research: Capt. (Dr.) Kyle Iverson

Dental

Second-year endodontic postgraduates: Lt. Col. (Dr.) Kathryn Aasen and Maj. (Dr.) James Young

One-year AEGD postgraduates: Capts. (Drs.) Jonathan Barnes, Phillip Barras, Michael Caldwell, Daniel Chartrand, Patrick Gaus, Christopher Gomez, Alan Jones, Michael Luna and Kirsten Valeri



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NMCS D graduates 177 interns, residents, fellows

By Mass Communication Specialists 2nd Class
Sean P. Lenahan and Jessica L. Tounzen
Naval Medical Center San Diego Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO — The Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) Professional Education Class of 2013 graduated 177 interns, residents and fellows during a ceremony at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park June 6.

NMCS D's Graduate Professional Education (GPE) program consists of 26 different specialties to include pediatrics, orthopedics, emergency medicine and others, ranging from one to six years in length. The NMCS D GPE program trains an average of 340 interns, residents and fellows annually, and culminates with more than 150 internship, residency and fellowship graduates each year.

Rear Adm. C. Forrest Faison III, commander, NMCS D and Navy Medicine West who delivered opening remarks, spoke about NMCS D's continuing dedication to shaping the future of Navy Medicine.

"For 67 years, Naval Medical Center San Diego has been training doctors to care for and save those who have volunteered to defend our freedom. Across those years, our programs are recognized as among the best in the nation, ensuring that the care provided to our patients, whether on the battlefield, overseas, or in any of our clinics around the world is absolutely the best care our nation can offer," he said. "While medicine has evolved and advanced significantly since those early days, what has never changed is our belief that compassion and caring are the foundations of all we do and our commitment to the best training possible

for those who devote their lives to serving the heroes of our nation and their families."

Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan, Navy Surgeon General and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, said Navy Medicine's newest interns, residents and fellows are faced with a tremendous responsibility in today's ever-changing global climate.

"We are charged with providing care and preventing illness, disease and injury above the sea, on the sea, under the sea and on land in support of the Marine Corps and our special forces, and as the last 12 years has shown, in support of the other services. When they get tasked, the Navy comes in. This is where we live. This is our domain. You're expected to be able to provide care seamlessly in a hospital or medical center such as [NMCS D], and then seamlessly migrate to an environment that may be hostile from combat. We're charged with the most precious cargo this country has: the men and women who stand up when needed and step forward when called."

NMCS D's Graduate Medical Education (GME) program dates back to 1946, and today is one of only three major Navy GME training sites and five Family Medicine sites across the Navy Medicine enterprise. More than 60% of the graduating interns will report directly to operational medicine platforms, including 18 going into flight surgery and seven going into dive medicine.

For more information on Naval Medical Center San Diego, visit www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcsd, www.facebook.com/nmcsd, or www.twitter.com/NMC_SD.



(U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Pyoung K. Yi/Released)

(Above and below) Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) Professional Education Class of 2013 listens to remarks delivered by Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan, Navy Surgeon General and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, during a graduation ceremony at Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park. NMCS D graduated 177 interns, residents and fellows from 26 different professional education programs including cardiology, pediatrics, pharmacy and orthopedics, ranging from one to six years in length.



Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan, Navy Surgeon General and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (right) presents the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal to NMCS D Orthopedic resident Lt. Cmdr. James Bailey (center) during the graduation of the NMCS D Professional Education Class of 2013 at Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park. Bailey received the award for meritorious service while serving as chief resident in NMCS D's Orthopedic Surgery clinic from July 2009 to June 2013. During this time, he organized and developed a new resident call system and a revised academic curriculum, ensuring compliance with accreditation standards for residency training. NMCS D graduated 177 interns, residents and fellows from 26 different professional education programs including cardiology, pediatrics, pharmacy and orthopedics, ranging from one to six years in length.



Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) interns, residents and fellows bow their heads during a benediction given by NMCS D Command Chaplain Capt. John P. Denton during the graduation of the NMCS D Professional Education Class of 2013 at Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park.

Frocking Ceremony



Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Erick Sangalang, assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS D) dental clinic, receives his petty officer first class crowns during a frocking ceremony at NMCS D.

(U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Justin W. Galvin/Released)

Electronics Technician 1st Class Phillip A. Martinez, executive assistant for Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS D) Director for Administration, receives his petty officer first class crowns from his wife Teresa during a frocking ceremony at NMCS D. One hundred ninety-nine Sailors from 20 rates were advanced to the next pay grade during the ceremony.



Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Andrew H. Shute, assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS D) orthopedics department, receives his petty officer second class crowns from retired Chief Hospital Corpsman Mark T. Petrina during a frocking ceremony at NMCS D.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Kimberly V. Brandes, assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego's (NMCS D) radiology department, celebrates with family after receiving her petty officer first class crowns during a frocking ceremony at NMCS D.

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Pledge of Allegiance

(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Justin W. Galvin/Released)

Commander, Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) and Navy Medicine West, Rear Adm. C. Forrest Faison III joins retired Air Force Col. Bruce Bailey and his wife, Gail, as the Baileys present a flag depicting the Pledge of Allegiance to NMCS D's Comprehensive Combat and Complex Casualty Care (C5) facility. Bailey donated the flag as a show of support and gratitude to our nation's wounded, ill and injured.



Miscellaneous

Denver Health Med Ctr seeks a Director of Correctional Care Behavioral Health Services for the Denver City & County jail. The director oversees the comprehensive behavioral health programs at the jails & provides supervision of a multidisciplinary mental health team. The jails are accredited by NCCCHC & ACA and were recently nominated for facility of the year by NCCCHC. Send CV: jeanette.moore@dhha.org or call Robert M. House, MD, Dir. Behavioral Hlth 303-602-6923. EOE

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Rear Adm. C. Forrest Faison III, commander, Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS) and Navy Medicine West (right) presents a command coin to Charis Ross (left), a pediatric dietitian at NMCS. Ross, a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel who has been employed at NMCS for 15 years, was recently selected for the California Dietetic Association's Award for Excellence in Clinical Dietetics 2013. Ross' professional achievement demonstrated innovation, creativity and leadership in the practice of clinical nutrition, contributed to the advancement of clinical practice, and inspired junior clinicians to excel in the both the profession and nutrition-related organizations.

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EOE

NMCSD unveils Tele-ICU

By Mass Communication Specialist
2nd Class Jessica Tounzen
Naval Medical Center
San Diego Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO — Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCSD) debuted a new video teleconferencing system to consult Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton (NHCP) staff on critically-ill patients May 28, with the first telemedicine patient encounter occurring May 30.

The TeleCritical Care Unit (TCCU) enables NMCSD Intensive Care Unit (ICU) physicians to make 'virtual rounds' remotely to NHCP's most critically-ill patients. The expected benefit is to improve patient outcomes by allowing earlier intervention and when required, transfer of the sickest patients, according to Cmdr. Steven Escobar, head, NMCSD pulmonary department.

Medical teleconferencing systems like NMCSD's TCCU are relatively new to military and civilian healthcare. Less than 10 percent of civilian ICU beds are monitored by this technology, and there is only one other facility in the Department of Defense to operate a TCCU monitoring station, according to Cmdr. Konrad Davis, medical director of critical care services at NMCSD.

Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) in Hawaii has operated a TCCU since 2003, initially connecting with Naval Hospital Guam, followed by Korea, and more recently adding Japan and Okinawa in 2012, according to Davis.

Data from the TAMC system showed improved patient outcomes and significant cost savings, he added. But it is not designed to be a stand-alone service.

TCCU is only one aspect of NMCSD's ICU support to NHCP. NMCSD currently screens patients using a Nursing Early Warning Sheet (NEWS) every day.

This form lists suggested consult and transfer criteria for treating prospective TCCU patients. NMCSD staff also teaches Fundamentals of Critical Care Support at NHCP twice a year, aimed at improving the first 24 hours of a critical patient's care.

Getting the TCCU operational took approximately 10 months to plan, order, install the system, and ultimately connect it to the NHCP system using high-definition bandwidth.

Davis is hopeful about the future of the TCCU and its impact on military medicine.

"This technology allows us to project specialist expertise virtually anywhere sufficient bandwidth and connectivity can be established. It has significant potential for the military, since we often travel and deploy to remote and austere environments where such expertise might not otherwise be available. The ability to offer a wide array of services to smaller or remote healthcare facilities without having to staff that facility also has the potential for significant cost-savings."

NMCSD and NHCP fall under Navy Medicine West (NMW) regional command which ensures operational readiness and force health protection overseeing command and control of 10 Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) accredited by the Joint Commission and two Dental Centers within the Pacific region while providing guidance for healthcare delivery; closely monitoring individual readiness and contingency response capability; ensuring efficient and effective utilization of funding and personnel resources; and encouraging system optimization and innovation while assessing future strategies. NMW is staffed by 16,900 active, reserve and civilian professionals who provide outstanding health services to more than 776,000 patients.



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Doctor and technician team revive Afghan youth's vision

455th Air Expeditionary Wing

By Staff Sgt. Stephenie Wade

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — “Providing children vision gives them a better chance at life in Afghanistan,” said Maj. Marcus Neuffer, ophthalmologist assigned to the Craig Joint Theater Hospital at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.

Here if children cannot see to perform normal daily tasks, there is a possibility they will be left behind in their village to fend for themselves.



Neuffers primary job here is to take care of patients with traumatic eye injuries but when he is not busy in the operation room, Neuffer and his technician, Airman 1st Class Chellbie Gonzales, spend their spare time providing humanitarian support to local nationals.

“At home we mainly perform refractive surgery and provide specialty eye care,” said the cornea and refractive surgeon deployed from Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

Not only is Gonzales Neuffer's assistant here, but she is his assistant at Keesler too. They are both sharing their first deployment mission and humanitarian effort together. Every week they go to the Korean hospital to treat patients from off base.

“The eye injuries and conditions here are not common in the United States, because the environment, health care system and patient demographics are different,” they both commented.

Neuffer is currently the only doctor on Bagram who is qualified to operate on eyes. If a local patient comes in to one of the humanitarian hospitals, the Korean or Egyptian hospital, and is in need of an eye surgery, they are brought to the Craig Hospital. So far he has operated on a dozen Afghan patients.

“I have performed cataract surgery on three children here so far, a 12-month-

old boy, a 6-year-old girl and an 8-year-old boy,” said Neuffer, a native of Salt Lake City. “A child's eye sight stops developing at about eight, if I can perform surgery before then, with glasses, the children should be able to regain enough vision to perform daily tasks.”

Cataracts are typically seen in older adults and severely limit vision. In the U.S. when found in children, cataracts are usually removed within the first two months of life.

“Unfortunately the Afghan children don't have as good of health care here and some are left blind their whole life,” said Gonzales, native of Hemet, Cali. “It's hard to tell exactly how old each patient is because the lack of medical care and records.”

After the surgery, Gonzales schedules follow up appointments for a day, a week and one month out to track the patient's progress. On the second appointment glasses are issued.

“My job is very rewarding here,” said Gonzales. “There's something special about seeing the children recognize objects and interact with the world.”

According to Neuffer, so far the outcome of these procedures on children has been good. For one 8-year-old-boy, it's been an awakening. Months ago, he picked up a mine while playing outside and which then exploded in his hands, resulting in cataracts amongst other injuries.

“When I first met him, his father led him by the hand because he could only see light,” said Neuffer. “A week after his surgery when the bandages came off, he put on glasses I gave him and he was able to see our faces. He was so excited he could see again he jumped up, pushed his family out of the way and ran straight into a wall. It was a happy but comical moment for us.”

Neuffer said he joined the Air Force to help those in need.

“Someday when the this place is safer I hope to establish a program that will help everyone, for now my goal is to give children as much vision as possible,” said Neuffer. “Having vision allows people to work and contribute to make their society better.”



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