

What's Up DACH?

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HOT News

Sgt. Jason Moody and Spc. Monica Roozen have been named NCO and Soldier of the Year at Darnall.

After competing in the NCO and Soldier of the Month and Quarter boards, Moody and Roozen competed at the NCO and Soldier of the Year winning the honors. Their photos and biographies are on display in the main lobby.

MEDDAC Happenings

Award Ceremony

PROFIS personnel who deployed with the 21st Combat Support Hospital on June 22.

Bronze Star Award Recipients

Col. Donald Mondragon

Col. Sheila Jones

Lt. Col. Michael Luszcak

Maj. Colleen Kesselring

Maj. Mark Reynolds

Maj. Stephanie Redding

Maj. Yong Choi

Capt. Eric Ritter

ARCOM Award Recipients

Maj. Karin Johnson

Capt. Kevin Warwick

Capt. Martha Kraus

Lt. Angela Cooper

Lt. Elizabeth Soriano

Lt. Michelle Gomez



Commander's Corner



MEDDAC Staff,

Thank you for your support and continued dedication as we continue to embrace change and provide world-class healthcare while supporting the combat readiness of III Corps. Your selflessness and commitment shows through your work everyday.

In order to maintain the level of professionalism that Darnall is fortunate to have, we all must continue to "Train," my second pillar of thought.

Patient care lies at the bedrock of individual job training and our ability to deploy a medical force in support of the combat readiness of III Corps

To sustain our training, we must maximize our market share by keeping as many of our beneficiaries as we can in our system. Caring for as many patients as we can keeps our individual job skills honed.

In addition to our job skills, we must also sustain our training in military skills. Skills such as physical fitness, weapons qualification, PROFIS training, and common tasks training are just as important as our job training. We will adhere to the MEDCOM and Army standards as we train in our military skills. We will exploit training opportunities with our III Corps medical colleagues and create synergy.

To properly execute training, we must have predictability, at least within our own organization. The current operational environment and external taskings can be unpredictable. My staff and I will work closely with III Corps and its major subordinate commands to maximize predictability whenever we can. However, we must not become our own worst enemy when it comes to predictability. We will lock in training events, as well as all master organizational events, 10 weeks out. All departments, sections and clinics will know the 10-week training organizational master event schedule and adjust their schedules accordingly.

As a result, all clinics will lock in patient appointment schedules six weeks out. Clinics will not change appointment schedules except for external taskings or emergency leaves.

Along with predictability comes elimination of "hey-you" taskings for soldier details. We cannot afford to have soldiers suddenly pulled out of their place of duty simply because someone within our organization failed to plan. We must plan and coordinate for soldier details six weeks out so departments, sections, and clinics can plan accordingly.

I will continue to maintain predictability in training as much as I can. I expect each of you to do as well. I am proud to see our MEDDAC training to support the combat readiness of III Corps as we lead the way for the next generation. One Team!

Col. Bernard DeKoning

Training Opportunities

Customer Service Class

The next Customer Service Class is scheduled for July 16 from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the hospital auditorium.

Ethics Committee

Darnall has an Ethics Committee which can be used as a resource to help providers and hospital employees manage ethical issues. The committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month in the DCCS conference room; ad hoc sessions can be held if needed. Please contact the DCCS office at 288-8482 to discuss any ethical concerns.

Diversity in the Workplace/Gender Differences

The next Diversity in the Workplace is scheduled for July 22 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Darnall auditorium. Point of Contact is the Equal Opportunity Advisor, Sgt. 1st Class Sheirice Graham at 286-7180.

Documentation-Improvement

A documentation-improvement training course is now posted on the Darnall website. Click on Staff, Hospital Intranet, Health Education Training. This training must be completed by physicians, midwives, residents and physician assistants. Please call the Division of Readiness, Education, Training and Security (DRETS) at 286-7236 for further information.

**Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Everett,
NCOIC of the Pharmacy
was selected on June 8th
to be inducted as a member
of the Sergeant
Audie Murphy Club.**



Voter Registration and Absentee Voting

For all questions on how to register to vote in Bell or Coryell Counties or absentee voting, contact 2nd Lt. Kurt Kresta Darnall Voting Assistance Officer. He has voter registration cards and write-in ballots for all DACH employees and their eligible family members. He will be able to answer any questions you have. He is located in room 115 of Bldg. 76022. Contact him at 287-4328 or 285-5630.

Prayer Breakfast

The next prayer breakfast is scheduled for July 7 from 6:45–7:30 a.m. in the hospital auditorium. For further information, please contact the chaplain's assistant at 288-8849.

The Infection Control Coordinator's Meeting

The Infection Control Coordinator's Meeting will be held Tuesday, July 20 at 1 p.m. in the COD Conference Room. POC is Infection Control at 288-8476.

Performance Improvement Suggestion

Anyone can submit a suggestion to improve something at Darnall. Simply complete the PI Suggestion Form 254 and drop it off in the QI Office, room 2431. All suggestions are discussed at the monthly Executive Committee meeting and the submitter will get feedback. Questions can be directed to QI at 286-7097.



Congratulations to the following outstanding people who have been promoted or received an award.

Capt. Francis Fota, Chief, Radiation Protection, Promotion to Maj.

Vivian Vargas, Logistics, Promotion

Vickii Allen, DFCM, Certificate of Achievement

Carrie Bursh, DFCM, Certificate of Achievement

Victoria Biehl, DFCM, Certificate of Achievement

Victoria Hollingshed, Preventive Medicine, Volunteer of the Month

Promoting Good Eating Habits for Children

By Gay Lynn Levan, RD
And Maj. Colleen Kesselring
Nutrition Care Division

Just last week a parent asked about the eating habits of his young child. The child was a picky eater who would eat little at mealtime, but would ask for a snack only 15 minutes after the meal ended. This is a common occurrence that can be frustrating for parents. But a few simple rules can get your child back on track.

#1. The first thing to remember is that parents determine what foods to buy and the menu to serve kids. Kids determine what to eat based on what's offered and how much to eat. In other words, control is shared between the parents and the kids. Parents cannot possibly know how full the child's stomach is since this will change daily based on activity level and growth spurts.

#2. Snacks should be offered to kids at the mid point between meals. Let the child know at mealtime that snacks won't be provided for another two or three hours. Let the child decide how much to eat at the meal. The child may now test your resolve and boundaries by asking for a snack 15 minutes after mealtime. Stick to your guns....you are the parent. The child will not starve, and will adapt to the schedule.

Remember you are a role model for your child's eating habits. The best way to get a child to eat is to set a good example at mealtime and snacks.

JCAHO Journal

Standards and performance measurement

JCAHO's standards address the organization's level of performance in key functional areas, such as patient rights, patient treatment, and infection control, and the standards focus not simply on an organization's ability to provide safe, high quality care, but on its actual performance as well. Standards set forth performance expectations for activities that affect the safety and quality of patient care. If an organization does the right things and does them well, there is a strong likelihood that its patients will experience good outcomes. JCAHO develops its standards in consultation with health care experts, providers, measurement experts, purchasers and consumers.