



RHUMB LINES

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Medical Readiness: Navy Medicine's Support to the Warfighter

"Navy Medicine is in the readiness business ... we must be ready the minute a warrior hits the ground or mom heads into the labor deck. We exist to support the Fleet and the Fleet Marine Force. When the world dials 911, it is NOT to make an appointment."
– Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan, Navy Surgeon General and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

The foundation of [Navy Medicine](#) is Force Health Protection. Force Health Protection means keeping the warfighter safe above and below the sea, on and off the battlefield. It is about knowing what the risks are and doing everything we can to protect our service members no matter where they serve around the globe.

Navy Medicine's Expeditionary Support to the Warfighter

- Everywhere a Sailor or Marine goes, Navy Medicine goes with them. From medical teams on ships and submarines, to our hospital corpsmen of the Fleet Marine Force, to the staff of our forward surgical teams and other healthcare providers on the ground in theater, [Navy Medicine](#) is always there.
- The [U.S. Navy-led NATO Role III hospital in Kandahar, Afghanistan](#), treats severely wounded service members from the battlefield. The hospital currently maintains a more than 97 percent survival rate of active duty service members wounded in Afghanistan.
- Navy Medicine currently operates the [Concussion Restoration Care Center in Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan](#), specializing in the treatment of invisible wounds of war like mild traumatic brain injury. The facility also specializes in muscle skeletal injuries and mental health care.

Research and Development in Support of the Warfighter

- [Naval Medical Research Unit-Dayton](#) has conducted numerous studies that directly impact operational readiness across the Navy. The Aeromedical Directorate is also conducting critical hypoxia and motion sickness countermeasure research.
- The Combat Casualty Care Research Department at [Naval Medical Research Unit-San Antonio](#) is conducting advanced trauma care research harnessing pharmaceutical, biotechnology-based and medical device-based technologies to develop cutting-edge solutions for trauma related care.

Medical Education and Training to Support the Warfighter

- [Naval Undersea Medical Institute](#) is the world's only education program producing undersea medicine qualified physicians in submarine, diving and radiation health. Radiation health officers were critical during Operation Tomodachi, providing guidance and training to U.S. Pacific Command and the fleet.
- Special Operations Medical Institute provides combat medical training for Special Operations Forces: Recon Corpsman, SEAL and Surface Warfare Combatant-Craft crewman, as well as medics under the U.S. Special Operations Command.
- [Naval Survival Training Institute](#) manages eight Aviation Survival Training Centers throughout the country.

Key Messages	Facts & Figures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy Medicine conducts expeditionary medical support for deployed Sailors and Marines worldwide while also providing needed assurance that their families will be well cared for in their absence. • Navy Medicine is a key element of the Navy's Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response capability worldwide from Haiti to Japan. • Medical research strengthens our force's ability to operate around the world and is a key element of U.S. health diplomacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy Medicine has 63,000 personnel on five continents around the world. • 2,282 Navy Medical personnel are currently deployed. • Navy Medicine is responsible for healthcare needs for more than 1 million eligible beneficiaries worldwide. • Navy Medicine active duty personnel are comprised of five corps: Hospital Corps, Medical Corps, Dental Corps, Nurse Corps and Medical Service Corps. • Navy Medicine is comprised of three medical centers, 16 naval hospitals and more than 100 branch health and dental clinics.