



## Health Care Transition in the NCR

As part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations, this September a new integrated health care delivery system is being stood up in the National Capital Region (NCR). This new system consists of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) in Bethesda, Md. and the new Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH) in Fort Belvoir, Va., along with other military treatment facilities in the area. WRNMMC and FBCH will be integrated hospitals. The facilities will have civilian, contractor, Army, Navy and Air Force staff members who will care for patients regardless of Service association. With each new beginning and opportunity however, comes a period of transition. To better serve the beneficiary population in

the region, the Walter Reed Army Medical Center is closing in September and the National Naval Medical Center will transition into the new WRNMMC. Also, the DeWitt Army Community Hospital's existing capabilities are moving to FBCH, which will provide additional capabilities. WRAMC and NNMC's patients and staff

are being realigned to these new facilities as well as other Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) in the region.

During this transition, the Department of Defense is also establishing the Malcolm Grow Medical Center at Andrews Air Force Base as an ambulatory surgical center.

### CURRENT FACILITIES IN THE NCR

- Walter Reed Army Medical Center (Washington, DC)
- DeWitt Army Community Hospital (Fort Belvoir, Va.)
- National Naval Medical Center (Bethesda, Md.)

**TRANSITION INTEGRATION EXPANSION**

### FUTURE JOINT IN-PATIENT FACILITIES IN THE NCR (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2011)

- Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (Bethesda, Md.)
- Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (Fort Belvoir, Va.)

## Beneficiary Reassignment in the NCR

The Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical (JTF CapMed) distributed Beneficiary Reassignment Notifications in December 2010 to all non-active duty beneficiaries enrolled at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and

National Naval Medical Center. Approximately 39,000 TRICARE Prime beneficiaries and TRICARE Plus beneficiaries received letters providing information on their projected primary care enrollment site after Sept. 15, 2011. Initial projected assignments were based on TRICARE Management Activity's access standards, including that travel time may not exceed 30 minutes between residence and a primary care delivery site, unless necessary, due to the absence of providers in the area.

effort is being made to accommodate requests. In May, beneficiaries who responded to the December mailings—with either questions or comments, or who indicated that they accepted or did not accept their projected assignment—were sent follow-up letters.

JTF CapMed will send beneficiaries their final reassignment notifications during the Summer of 2011.



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Ricardo J. Reyes/Released

In the initial letter, beneficiaries had an opportunity to indicate acceptance of their projected assigned military treatment facility. Every

**If your address has changed, please update your personal information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System or access DEERS through TRICARE. Your new address will be used to determine the best MTF location to serve your primary care needs.**

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## Primary Care versus Specialty Care

Beneficiary reassignment locations pertain only to Primary Care Services provided by a Primary Care Manager. After September 2011, specialty care will be available throughout the National Capital Region, including Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital and the 779th Medical Group depending on patients needs. All specialty care currently available within the National Capital Region will continue to be

available after September 2011. Primary care services provide health promotion, disease prevention, health maintenance, counseling, patient education, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses in a variety of health care settings. Specialty Care includes specialized medical services provided by a physician specialist (e.g., cardiology, oncology, obstetrics, and surgery).

## Two World-class Facilities Anchor the NCR IDS

The National Capital Region Medical Integrated Delivery System (IDS), anchored by the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, is based on a patient-centric model that brings together the best of

the Army, Navy and Air Force's medical care. By integrating services, capabilities, technologies and resources, health care in the National Capital Region is (NCR) able to be greater than the sum of its parts. Through this integrated system, the Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical is able to standardize the purchasing and use of state-of-the-art medical equipment and materials which increases patient safety and de-

creases cost. Right now, this level of standardization can only be found in the NCR. Integration has also allowed us to

leverage purchasing power with vendors through economies of scale and provides the opportunity to review current duplicative processes and administrative services across the NCR to streamline and consolidate operations. This world-class integrated health care delivery system will heighten the excellence of military health care and facilitate the recruitment, utilization and retention of world-class talent.

# World-Class Facilities

## Reassignment Notification Responses Needed

As part of the December 2010 and May 2011 Beneficiary Reassignment Notifications, JTF CapMed solicited information regarding MTF preference. Through this preference selection process, we attempted to match and best

meet all considerations regarding primary care enrollment locations and projected primary care managers. Though we would like to accommodate every beneficiary's preference, we will not be able to meet everyone's requests. JTF Cap-

### WHEN WILL PATIENTS BEGIN RECEIVING CARE AT WRNMMC?

Primary and specialty care currently provided at the National Naval Medical Center will continue as it integrates into Walter Reed National Military Medical Center effective Sept. 15, 2011.

### HOW IS BENEFICIARY REASSIGNMENT DETERMINED?

Patient satisfaction is a priority. MTF location is determined based on TRICARE's Access to Care Standards. The Access to Care Standards state that travel time may not exceed 30 minutes between residence and a primary care delivery site, unless a longer time is necessary due to the absence of providers in the area. Special considerations will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

### WILL I BE ABLE TO REQUEST MY CURRENT PCM, IF HE OR SHE MOVES TO A DIFFERENT MTF IN THE AREA?

Yes, provided that the PCM has availability and the MTF meets TRICARE's Access to Care Standards.

### WHAT IF I'M NOT SATISFIED WITH MY NEW PROJECTED LOCATION?

At this time, beneficiary reassignment locations are a tentative projection. If you are not satisfied with your new projected location, please send back the preference information sheet enclosed with your letter and identify your preferred location. Follow-up communication will take place in mid 2011 with a determination of the outcome of your request.

Med would like to thank everyone who responded and returned their MTF Preference Sheets. The final notification, identifying the name and location of your PCM, will be mailed during the Summer of 2011.