Army Dental Corps Celebrates 109 Years

The 3rd of March 2020 marked the 109th birthday of the U.S. Army Dental Corps. The Birthday Ball continues to be a great event celebrating our history, accomplishments over the past year, and looking ahead to a promising future. From all of us here at the Corps Chief’s office, Happy Birthday to the Dental Corps and thank you to all the members of our Dental Care Team!

Nominations for Dental Corps Chief Award of Excellence

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2020 Dental Corps Chief Awards of Excellence.

The following awards are being considered:

- DC Chief Exceptional Service and Leadership Award
- DC Chief Junior Officer Award of Excellence
- DC Chief Award of Excellence in Dental Education
- DC Chief Reserve Component Officer Award of Excellence
- DC Chief Federal Civilian Award of Excellence—Category I and II
- DC Chief Non-Commissioned Officer Award of Excellence
- DC Chief Junior Soldier Award of Excellence

Updated submission deadline for nominations: 17 April 2020
CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

**HQDA EXORD 144-20 ARMY WIDE PREPARADNESS AND RESPONSE TO CORONA VIRUS OUTBREAK**

Highlights to be aware of (FRAGO 4,5,7 and 8):

Soldiers on orders to PCS to/from Korea/Italy are on hold until 6 May 2020 (or until further notice). If a Soldier terminates a lease under the Service members Civil Relief Act (SCRA), but then cannot PCS due to FRAGO 4, the SCRA does not require the landlord to re-lease the dwelling to the Soldier. Therefore, Soldiers should not terminate a dwelling lease yet.

♦ EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY soldiers will not attend training, exercises, exchanges and visits in countries with a CDC alert level category 2 or above for COVID-19.

♦ EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, all Army participation in exercises hosted by CDC alert category 2 and above countries are cancelled until further notice.

♦ EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, commanders will minimize movement of Soldiers, families, Department of the Army Civilians (DACs), Army non-appropriated fund (NAF) employees, and DA contractors to only essential travel to reduce the risk of spreading of COVID-19.

♦ FRAGO 7 requires that all Army-affiliated personnel (Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, Army non-appropriated fund employees, Army sponsored DOD-affiliated U.S. contractors, and associated DEERS enrolled family members) will update the Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (ADPAAS) to reflect their most current physical residence for themselves and their family members, do not use APO/FPO mailing address, only use physical address of residence. The ADPAAS website is: https://adpaas.army.mil

ADA: Dentists should follow standard precautions, based on CDC Guidelines

According to the American Dental Association (ADA) dentists should follow standard precautions, based on CDC guidelines. [Informational handout for dentists](https://www.cdc.gov/)

ADA Asks Congress To Include Dentists, Patients In Coronavirus Legislation

12 March, ADA President Chad P. Gehani and Executive Director Kathleen T. O’Loughlin asked the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee to ensure that dentists, who are primary care doctors specializing in oral health, and their patients are not inadvertently excluded from legislative proposals as they move forward.” Adding “we especially ask Congress to remember the need for dentists to have access to personal protective equipment supplies, such as face masks, in order to protect their patients, their staff and themselves from infection.” [ADA.org/virus](https://www.cdc.gov/)

FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING COVID-19 AND PATIENT CARE:

COL David Olson, the Army Dentistry Infection Preventionist at: david.golson12.mil@mail.mil
DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND– ATLANTIC (DHC-A) UPDATE

This month we are proud to highlight some of the recent missions, achievements, special events of the DHC-Atlantic Soldiers and civilians.

Fort Gordon Hosts the DHC-A Best Warrior Competition 2020

Fort Gordon DHA hosted the DHC-A 2020 Best Warrior Competition.

The Dental Health Command Atlantic Best Warrior Competition recognized Soldiers within the region who demonstrated commitment to the Army values, embodied the Warrior Ethos, and represented the Force of the Future. The Winner for both NCO/Soldier will go on to compete in the Regional Health Command Atlantic Competition.

The DHC-A finest warriors represented 12 DRU’s from across the Atlantic region. This year for the first time DHC-A introduced the Officer Best Warrior of the Year category. Seven officers from across the region competed for the title.

Cadre and competitors from the Atlantic Region
DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND– ATLANTIC (DHC-A) UPDATE
Fort Gordon Hosts the DHC-A Best Warrior Competition 2020 Continued

During the four-day competition, Officers, NCOs, and Junior Enlisted were tested in their knowledge, skills, physical and mental abilities to react under pressure with any given task. The tasks included zero weapons range, oral board, 12 miles road march, dynamic range, gas chamber, Tactical Combat Casualty Care, Army Combat Fitness Test, day and night land navigation, Warrior Task and Battle Drills, written essay, oral board and obstacle course. The winners for DHC-A Best Warrior Competition are CPT Andrew Jenzer from Fort Gordon, SGT JanLeo Ras from Fort Campbell and SPC Quocanh Le from Army Dental Laboratory.

Top Left: Soldier testing on Tactical Combat Casualty Care
Right: CPT Andrew Jenzer, SGT Kenneth Randle and SPC Christopher Bonilla;
Bottom Left: Meet this year’s winners CPT Andrew Jenzer, SGT JanLeo Ras and SPC Quocanh Le
DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND– EUROPE (DHC-E)
Ansbach Kaserne Hosts the DHC-E Best Warrior Competition 2020

During the second week of February, Dental Health Command Europe held their annual Best Warrior Competition. Soldiers and Officers were invited to compete for the title of Best Warrior, and be recognized for excelling in their warrior tasks and drills as Soldiers and as Dental Specialists.

Twelve competitors began the week in Ansbach Kaserne, representing Rhineland Pfalz, Bavaria and Italy to select the region’s best representatives for the RHC-E Best Warrior Competition in Grafenwoehr in March 2020.

The competition is designed to challenge the physical and mental attributes of each competitor. Events included the Army Physical Fitness Test, day and night land navigation, weapons qualification, rugged terrain navigation, basic knowledge of Warrior tasks and drills, a 6 mile road march, Iron Soldier event, mystery events, written exam, oral board examination, and an Army Combat Fitness Test qualifying round. CPT Thomas Pepe, SSG Juan Vallejo and SPC Tala Arthur of Grafenwoehr Dental Clinic showed their mettle and powered through the events.

CPT Tommy Pepe, of Grafenwoehr Dental Clinic, will represent in March’s RHCE competition. SSG Juan Vallejo and SPC Tala Arthur also competed and just fell short of winning. In the end, strong bonds were cultivated amongst the competitors and friendships were cemented.

STORYBOARD
DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND—PACIFIC (DHC-P)  
Honolulu Hosts the DHC-P Best Warrior Competition 2020

In the first week of March, the joint Dental Health Command—Pacific and Public Health Command-Pacific Best Warrior Competition FY19 was held in Hawaii. Candidates were tested in a multitude of ways to include the Army Combat Fitness Test, land navigation, a tactical board, a written test, EST, a ruck march, combatives, warrior tasks and battle drills, an obstacle course and a mystery event. Check out the video storyboard HERE.
DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND–CENTRAL (DHC-C)
Camp Bullis Hosts the DHC-C Best Warrior Technical Skills Competition 2020

12 MAR 2020, the Best Warrior Technical Skills Competition began. Candidates participated in ranges, ACFT, simulated movements under fire, and culminated with a day of grueling events. During the final day of competition, candidates ran through three lanes and conducted vehicle loading, vehicle PMCS, communications, establishing dental treatment capabilities, reaction to receipt of a FRAGORD to move operations, as well as deal with multiple dental treatment scenarios.

Congratulations to this year’s top three teams:
First place went to the 502nd DCAS: CPT Jedidiah Allen and PFC Sallymatta Yahuza
Second place went to Fort Riley DENTAC: CPT Nicholas Reece and CPL John Ryan
Third place went to JBSA (MAP from 502nd DCAS)/ FT Huachuca CPT Steven McDaniel and SGT Guadalupe Vivar-Reyes
U.S. ARMY TURNS OUT FOR NATIONAL CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Grafenwoehr Dental Clinic—Germany

In the month of February, CPT Benjamin Werner, MAJ Brent Talbot, CPT Morgan Richards, CPT Ian Guzy, CPT Thomas Pepe, SPC Christian Rodriguez, PFC Bryce Harris and PV2 Iman Wilson attended Netzaberg and Grafenwoehr Elementary Schools alongside MAJ Katherine Darling-Lund, MAJ Jun Hong, CPT Garrett Seymour and other Vilseck team members. They presented informational videos and gave interactive lectures to the children of the Grafenwoehr footprint. The instructional videos provided the basic foundational knowledge to our younger audience, including the etiology of caries, nutritional counseling, prevention and care of sports-related injuries.

CPT Benjamin Werner reinforced the information with demonstrations of technique. MAJ Brent Talbot, CPT Thomas Pepe and CPT Morgan Richards provided amusement and levity to the harder topics by actively engaging the audience with questions to test their newly gained knowledge while promoting the benefits of what they had learned.

Exams were performed, demonstrating what to expect to regular dental visit, allaying fears. Incorporation of the teachers and aides at each school increased participation and proved valuable to reinforcing the lessons learned. Over 900 children participated in the event, thoroughly enjoying themselves in the process and learning more than they had originally thought they could about dental health!

STORYBOARD

Right: Team members from Grafenwoehr and Vilseck led by chief pedodontist CPT Benjamin Werner and Orthodontist MAJ Katherine Darling-Lund get ready for a morning presenting information and fighting children’s cavities.
NATIONAL CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH CONTINUED

Wiesbaden Dental Clinic—Germany

In support of National Children's Dental Health Month, several members of the Wiesbaden Army Dental Clinic visited Hainerberg and Aukamm Elementary Schools and conducted dental screenings and provided oral hygiene instruction to more than 700 kindergarten and elementary age students. Children were taught proper brushing and flossing techniques and were shown a video on the importance of oral health.

Staff members provided off-post dental clinic information to school nurses in an effort to increase access to care.

The full article can be found HERE

Carlisle Barracks — Pennsylvania

To raise awareness for Children’s Dental Health Month, members of the Carlisle Barracks Dental Clinic team visited preschool children at the Moore Child Development Center this February.

Approximately 50 children aged 3-5 years old received dental exams to screen for tooth decay and other potential dental issues.

According to Dental Officer CPT Elizabeth Mackall (top left corner), “it is important to have positive experiences with dental care early on. When we show them a little of what to expect at the dentist, they are less scared and are more receptive to receiving dental care in the future.”

PFC Hannah Doucet (top middle and far right) added “the goal is to teach them good oral health habits at a young age with the hope that they will carry these good habits into adulthood, reducing their risks of future dental problems.”

CARLISLE NEWSLETTER
DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH (63H)

SPECIAL FEATURE: PART 1

Oral health surveillance is just one of the many functions of the Dental Public Health (DPH) specialty. Epidemiological surveillance is the collection, analysis, and interpretation of disease-related data. This information is utilized to identify high-risk populations, describe patterns of disease, target interventions, and evaluate the effectiveness of preventive health measures.

A rare, yet serious disease which warrants surveillance is oral cancer; MAJ Christa E. Hirleman, a DPH specialist at the Army Public Health Center (APHC), has spent the past year doing just that. MAJ Hirleman surveilled oral cavity and pharynx cancer among Active Duty (AD) Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps Service Members (SMs).

The overall purpose of this surveillance project was to determine the incidence of oral cavity and pharynx cancer among AD SMs and to provide an overview of historic rates and trends. This type of analysis served to determine the most common sites of oral cancer and the specific groups of SMs who appear to be at the highest risk of developing it. Oral cancer surveillance contributes to its risk assessment, prevention, and diagnosis.

Dental officers play a significant role in the early detection of oral cancer. In addition to screening for oral cancer, dental officers have an obligation to assess the risk of oral cancer among SMs and advise them as to what those risk factors are (tobacco, alcohol, and human papillomavirus). Risk assessment and disease prevention are extremely important mechanisms utilized to improve and sustain the dental readiness and oral health of SMs.

MAJ Christa E. Hirleman, DPH specialist
DIGITAL DENTISTRY IN KOREA
Recently, LTC Mansell travelled to Korea to conduct a week long chairside CAD/CAM Workshop. LTC Mansell spent the week with 16 providers of the 618th Dental Company Area Support / Dental Health Activity - Korea. Content included prep design, CEREC hardware and software familiarization, millable material discussion and the future of Digital Dentistry in the military. Providers fabricated multiple restorations utilizing various materials and prep designs. They also were given instruction on e.Max stain and glazing by the Carius Dental Clinic lab staff, Mr. Yi.

CPT Mee Kwak, CPT Heesung Kim, LTC Michael Mansell, CPT Benjamin Yoon, CPT Joshua Rogers, CPT Joanna Yim, MAJ O Kwon

CPT Hee Jang, CPT Peter Yoon, CPT Han Kim, CPT Tyler Duffy, CPT Gina Paik, LTC Micheal Mansell, CPT Mu Song, CPT Terrence Shin, CPT Eric Tong

LTC Michael Mansell, CPT Joshua Rogers

ARMY DENTAL LAB RESOURCES
Army Dental Laboratory Submission Checklist — 2020
Army Dental Laboratory Product List — January 2020
INFECTION CONTROL CORNER

QUESTION:
What do I do if a boil-water advisory is implemented?

ANSWER:
A boil-water advisory is a public health announcement that the public should boil tap water before any consumption. During this time, dental health care personnel (DHCP) should not use water from the public water system in any dental equipment. Even though every DTF is equipped with a Sterisil Water Purification System, they are not designed to counteract the effects of grossly contaminated water. If this contaminated water reaches the Sterisil System and dental unit waterlines, this may potentially result in a Patient Safety breach. Instead, have patients rinse with bottled or distilled water until the boil-water advisory is cancelled. In addition, DHCP should use antimicrobial products that do not require water and use bottled water and soap for handwashing if hands are visibly soiled.

When the boil-water advisory is lifted, follow the local water utility’s guidance on flushing all incoming waterlines from the public water system. If the local DENTAC does not receive such guidance, then flush dental waterlines and faucets for 1-5 minutes before resuming patient care. After the incoming public water system lines are flushed, disinfect or shock dental unit waterlines as recommended by Sterisil.

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You can find more information on the CDC oral health homepage as well as in Appendix J of PAM 40-5-1