



## NAVY MEDICINE'S SUPPORT TO WARRIOR CARE MONTH

*"Patient and Family-Centered Care is Navy Medicine's core concept of care which recognizes the vital importance of the family, military culture, and the chain of command in supporting our wounded warriors. This is a long-term commitment. We will be caring for our wounded warriors for the better part of this century well beyond our military presence in Iraq or Afghanistan."*

**Vice Admiral Adam M. Robinson Jr., MC**  
**Surgeon General of the Navy**

### BACKGROUND:

In 2008, Secretary Gates designated November as "Warrior Care Month" to highlight DOD's commitment to quality care for our service members and their families. Navy Medicine has answered that call each and every month by focusing on combat casualty care throughout the continuum of care. This commitment begins with the corpsman in the field, progresses to resuscitative care, on to theater level care, and culminates in care provided en route during a warrior's evacuation to a military hospital and world-class restorative and rehabilitative care here in CONUS.

In support of Warrior Care Month, I'd like to highlight some of the things Navy Medicine is doing to provide patient and family-centered care for our wounded warriors. Make no mistake, when our Sailors and Marines in the fight are hurt, we apply *all* of our training and resources to provide rapid care, and almost everything we do is in partnership with our sister services. A wounded warrior's chance of survival if they can get to a surgical unit is now greater than 95%. This is the lowest mortality rate amongst trauma victims coming out of any war in history. If a warrior can arrive with life in him or her, there's a good chance we can keep them alive.

### PATIENT AND FAMILY-CENTERED PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT WARRIOR CARE:

- [Walter Reed National Military Medical Center](#) in Bethesda, MD will be opened by September, 2011. We are working to ensure this project is executed properly without any disruption of services for Sailors, Marines, and their families.
- [National Intrepid Center of Excellence](#) (NiCOE), on campus in Bethesda, is truly a next generation facility to more effectively research, diagnose, and treat traumatic brain injuries and post traumatic stress for wounded warriors.
- **BUMED Wounded Warrior Regiment Medical Review Teams** coordinate with battalion surgeons, deployed units, and Military Treatment Facilities in advance of the return of a unit to set up anticipated medical appointments, ensuring a majority of medical needs are assessed prior to demobilization.
- **OSCAR** (Operational Stress Control and Readiness) teams are also helping to build resilience and decrease stigmas associated with seeking psychological health care.
- **17 Deployment Health Centers** are serving as non-stigmatizing portals of entry in high fleet and Marine Corps concentration areas and augmenting primary care service offered at Military Treatment Facilities.
- [Medical Home Port](#) initiative is providing a more comprehensive, team-based model of healthcare delivery. This new model will drive out variability by implementing standards for all aspects of primary care services and ensure that care is all-inclusive and integrated with all other care provided within our healthcare system.
- [Project FOCUS](#) (Families Over Coming Under Stress) is a family-centered resiliency training program based on evidence-based research interventions that enhance understanding, psychological health, and developmental outcomes for highly stressed children and families. [FOCUS](#) participation has increased family and child positive coping and reduced parent and child distress over time.

### KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Navy Medicine's support to wounded warriors is unwavering. We are dedicated to helping wounded warriors transition from the combat zone to the home front so Sailors, Marines and families can heal in body, mind, and spirit.
- Navy Medicine is doing everything we can to ensure a continuum of physiological and psychological healthcare is available to service members throughout the deployment cycle – pre-deployment, during deployment, and post-deployment.
- Navy Medicine treats Sailors and Marines throughout the continuum of care, from the battlefield to resuscitative care, to theater level care, and culminating in evacuation to a military hospital and world class restorative and rehabilitative care INCONUS.