About Naval Medical Center, San Diego (NMCSD)

A Tradition of Care

Located on Florida Drive, adjacent to Balboa Park, Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCSD) is the most technologically advanced Navy medical treatment facility. Nicknamed, Balboa, the Pride of Navy Medicine, the hospital has played a vital role in the history of San Diego for more than 80 years. From the original tent dispensary established in 1917, to the high-tech, ultra modern facility of the 1990s, the mission has remained constant to provide the finest medical care in a family-centered care environment to the operational forces, their families, and to those who served their country in the past.

Simply the Best - Ashore and Aboard

There are almost half a million people in San Diego County eligible to receive care at the Naval Medical Center. This care is provided by a military and civilian staff of more then 6,000. To augment that staff and to expand the scope of services available to its patient population, Naval Medical Center San Diego has taken the lead in introducing many innovative partnership and resource sharing programs with civilian providers.

Naval Medical Center San Diego is first and foremost a military command. The center has five medical mobilization teams including the hospital ship USNS Mercy whose personnel are drawn from the hospital staff. These teams deploy to the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia at various times during the year. It is the center's mission to insure Sailors and Marines onboard those ships have access to quality medical care, if needed.

Throughout its proud history, Naval Medical Center San Diego has established itself as a leader in the field of medicine. That reputation for excellence continues today as the staff propels NMCSD into the 21st century.

Research & Teaching

A leader in the medical field, the hospital is also a major teaching and research center.

As Navy medicine's most active teaching hospital, graduate medical education programs are conducted in anesthesiology, dermatology, emergency medicine, general surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics-gynecology, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, orthopedics, pathology, pediatrics, psychiatry, psychology, radiology, urology, general practice dentistry, oral and maxillofacial surgery, nurse anesthesia, and hospital pharmacy.

Fellowships are offered in adolescent medicine, cardiology, critical care, computerized tomography and imaging, dermatopathology, gastroenterology, hematology- oncology, infectious disease, nephrology, and pulmonary disease.

Naval Medical Center San Diego is affiliated with the University of California San Diego, Children's Hospital and Health Center, Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, La Jolla and many prestigious institutions throughout the United States where Navy trainees perform rotations as integral parts of their residency of fellowship programs.

Naval Medical Center San Diego operates a network of clinics located at area military installations. Through these clinics, ambulatory care is provided to the active duty population. Nine other clinics are located throughout San Diego and are available to our family members and retirees.
NMCSD Mission

Our Mission

- Prepare to deploy in support of operational forces
- Deliver quality health services
- Shape the future of military medicine through education, training and research

Our Vision

Be the nation’s premier Military Medical Center, providing world-class care; anytime, anywhere!

Guiding Principles

We believe:

- Staff are our most important resource.
- Patients are our focus.
- Success is judged by those we serve.

- Service, professionalism, respect, teamwork, safety and compassion are valued.
- Building a healthy force, preventing casualties, and casualty care are the cornerstones of our practice.
- Quality healthcare is centered on families and communities.
- Structured and disciplined resource decisions lead to sound business practices.
- Communication, coordination, and cooperation are critical to our success.
- Continuous improvement is essential to quality healthcare and patient safety.
Rear Admiral Christine M. Bruzek-Kohler

Rear Admiral Christine M. Bruzek-Kohler is a native of Camden, N.J. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Villanova University where she was commissioned as an Ensign in 1974. She also holds a Master of Education from Providence College, and a Master of Arts and Doctor of Education from George Washington University. Additionally, Bruzek-Kohler is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

In her distinguished career, Bruzek-Kohler served as Charge Nurse, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md.; Staff Nurse, U.S. Naval Regional Medical Center, Naples, Italy; Ambulatory Care Coordinator, Naval Hospital Newport, R.I.; Director of Academic Support Department, Naval School of Health Sciences, Bethesda; Head of Enlisted Training Programs, Naval Health Sciences Education and Training Center; Director of Nursing/Acting Executive Officer, Naval Hospital Great Lakes, Ill.; Director of Nursing, U.S. Naval Hospital, Guam; Executive Officer, Naval Hospital, Pensacola, Fla.; Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Lemoore, Calif.; Assistant Deputy Chief for Medical Operations Support, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Washington, D.C. and most recently served as the 21st Director of the Navy Nurse Corps, Chief of Staff, and Deputy Chief, Medical Operations, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Washington, D.C.

She assumed the duties of Commander, Naval Medical Center San Diego and Navy Medicine West May 22, 2009 in addition to retaining her role as the 21st Director, Navy Nurse Corps.

Bruzek-Kohler’s personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (four awards), Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), and various service awards.
Master Chief Petty Officer Kathleen A. Hansen, a native of Midland, Michigan, entered the United States Navy in August 1979. After attending recruit training at Recruit Training Command Orlando, Florida, she reported to Bermuda Naval Annex, where she trained to become a Hull Maintenance Technician.

In 1982, Master Chief Hansen reported to Pre-Commissioning Unit CAPE COD (AD 43), home ported in San Diego, California. Her next assignment was with the Security Department at Naval Air Station Miramar, California. While assigned, she advanced to the rank of Petty Officer Second Class.

In 1986, Master Chief Hansen reported as Leading Petty Officer of Repair Division on board USS CANOPUS (AS 34), home ported in Kings Bay, Georgia. While on board CANOPUS, she earned her Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist qualification. Upon completion of her tour on board CANOPUS, she reported as Hull Maintenance Technician Detailer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Washington, D.C. While assigned she advanced to the rank of Chief Petty Officer in July 1992.

In 1995, Master Chief Hansen reported as Repair Division Leading Chief Petty Officer on board USS TORTUGA (LSD 46), home ported in Little Creek, Virginia. While on board TORTUGA, she deployed to the Mediterranean Sea and West African. Master Chief Hansen attended the Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, Rhode Island and reported as Repair Division Leading Chief Petty Officer on board USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63), home ported in San Diego. While on board KITTY HAWK, she earned her Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist qualification and completed a homeport change from San Diego to Yokosuka, Japan and a six month deployment to the Persian Gulf.

In 2000, Master Chief Hansen returned to Washington, D.C., and was assigned as Technical Advisor to the Hull, Mechanical and Electrical Enlisted Community Manager. Upon completion of her tour in Washington, D.C., Master Chief Hansen reported as
Command Master Chief on board USS PEARL HARBOR (LSD 52), home ported in San Diego. While on board PEARL HARBOR, she deployed twice in two years in support of Operations "ENDURING FREEDOM" and "IRAQI FREEDOM," and during this time PEARL HARBOR won the Battle Efficiency award for 2003.

In 2004, Master Chief Hansen reported as Command Master Chief on board USS RONALD REAGAN (CVN 76). While on board REAGAN, she completed the ship homeport change from Norfolk, Virginia to San Diego. Of note, Master Chief Hansen designed and cast a bell for the Chief Petty Officer rank Centennial Anniversary that was dedicated to, and is displayed at, the Navy Memorial. She was also directly involved in the Groundbreaking and Dedication of the Women's Memorial, both located in Washington, D.C. In 2005, Master Chief Hansen was named one of San Diego's top ten "Cool Women," a Girl Scout Leadership Award.

Master Chief Hansen's personal military decorations include: Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal (two awards); Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards); Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards); and numerous campaign and service awards.

Reporting Aboard:

If you need a ride from the San Diego Lindbergh Field Airport to Naval Medical Center San Diego go to the USO counter in the west terminal. They can arrange a ride from the airport to the hospital for you at a minimal cost. The telephone number to the USO is (619) 296-3192 and they are open from 9am to 11pm.

Command Sponsor Coordinator: (619) 532-9239

Other numbers:

Quarterdeck: (619)532-6400; Military HRO: (619)532-6500; Civilian HRO: (619)532-9396; USO: (619)296-3192

Command Address: 34800 Bob Wilson Dr., San Diego, CA 92134-5000

Military Personnel:

Upon arrival, report to the Officer-of-the-Day (OOD) and have your orders endorsed. Then proceed to Human Resource Management Department's (HRMD) Receipt, Transfer, and Leave section to start your reporting aboard process. If you report to OOD after normal working hours, then report to HRMD next working day at 0700. HRMD is located in Bldg 2, Ground Level, in the Director For Resources area. Additionally, it is co-located with the PSD Balboa.

Maps and Directions:
Driving Directions and Map to NMCSD Hospital Facility

From I-5, North or South

1. Take the Pershing Drive exit.
2. You will end up on Pershing Drive.
3. Follow Pershing Drive to Florida Drive, the first stoplight.
4. Turn left onto Florida Drive.
5. Turn left onto Bob Wilson Drive, the first light, entering NMCSD.

From Highway 163

1. Go south on Highway 163.
2. Take Park Blvd. exit.
3. Turn left on Park Blvd.
4. Turn right at Zoo Place.
5. Turn right on Florida Drive at foot of hill.
6. Turn right onto Bob Wilson Drive, the first light, entering NMCSD.
From Highway 94

1. Go west on Highway 94 to the end of the highway.
2. Highway 94 becomes F Street.
3. Continue on F Street to 16th Street (the first light).
4. Turn right on 16th Street.
5. Follow 16th Street to C Street.
6. Turn right onto C Street and continue to 19th Street.
7. Turn left onto 19th Street.
8. Follow 19th Street. Continue to Pershing Drive.
9. Continue on Pershing Drive.
10. Follow Pershing Drive to Florida Drive, the first stoplight.
11. Turn left onto Florida Drive.
12. Turn left onto Bob Wilson Drive, the first light, entering NMCSD.

To use Public Parking

To use City Lot parking (400/800 lots) near the Veterans Memorial Center Bldg, and take the free tram to the hospital, do not turn onto Bob Wilson Drive. Instead:

1. Go past Bob Wilson Drive.
2. Turn left on Zoo Place.
3. Turn left at top of hill onto Park Blvd.
4. At the third stop light, turn left on President's Way.
5. Park in either the 400 (upper) or 800 (lower) lot.
6. The tram station is in under the arbor between the two lots.
7. The hospital tram runs every 15 minutes and is free.

Lodging & Food:

Navy Lodges

Worldwide Reservations (800) 628-9466
Naval Base San Diego (619) 234-6142
Naval Base Coronado (619) 435-0191
Miramar Inn (858) 271-7111
**Bachelor Officers Quarters:**
Naval Base San Diego (619) 556-8672
Naval Base Coronado (619) 545-7545
NAB Coronado (619) 437-3860
Naval Base Point Lorna (619) 553-9381

**Bachelor Enlisted Quarters:**
Naval Base San Diego (619) 556-8672
Naval Base Coronado (619) 545-9551
NAB Coronado (619) 437-3860
Naval Base Point Loma (619) 553-9381

**Galley's:**
Naval Base San Diego (619) 556-7039
Naval Base Coronado (619) 545-7512
NAB Coronado (619) 437-2044
Naval Base Point Loma (619) 553-7544

**San Diego Utilities & Services:**
SBC (Telephone) (800) 310-2355
San Diego Gas & Electric (800) 411-7343
Otay Water (619) 670-2241

Pacific Waste Service
- San Diego (619) 561-7080
- Alpine (619) 561-7080
- South Bay (619) 561-7080

COX Cable (800) 234-6660
Time Warner Cable (858) 695-3220

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) (800) 777-0133
San Diego Transit (619) 233-3004
Lending Lockers:
Naval Base San Diego (619) 556-7404
Naval Base Coronado (619) 545-6071

Medical Information:
Tricare Service Center, (800) 242-6788
Chula Vista, 644 Naples St, (619) 585-5555
San Diego, 808 Balboa Ave, (858) 569-6664
Naval Base Coronado, (619) 545-4319
NAB (Active duty), 619-437-3050
Naval Training Center (NTC), (619) 524-4947
Naval Station (Active duty), (619) 556-8101
Naval Medical Center, San Diego, (619) 532-6400 Appointments; (619) 532-8225 Tricare

Child Development:
Child Care Resource Referral for the Southwest Region, (619) 556-8491 or email at ccrr@mwrsw.com; phone (877) 235-6002 (Toll-Free)
Navy Family Homecare Program, (619) 556-7391

Navy Child and Youth Programs:
YMCA Child Care Resource, (800) 481-2151 or visit www.militaryonesource.com

School Information:
SD County Office of Education (858) 292-3500
Borrego Springs (760) 767-5357
Carlsbad (760) 331-5000
Chula Vista (619) 425-9600
Coronado Unified (619) 522-8918 / 8900
Oceanside (760) 757-2560
Poway (858) 748-0010
Ramona (760) 787-2000
San Diego Unified 619) 725-8000
San Marcos (760) 744-4776
Military Child Education Coalition's (MECC) SchoolQuest:

SchoolQuest is designed for military families and is a safe, secure online resource. It is organized so that you can access information that the MCEC has gathered to help you make decisions on future schools for your children.

Basic Travel Entitlements:

Pay and Allowances for travel is based on an individual meeting specific eligibility criteria. Check with your disbursing office to determine your specific entitlements.

Advanced Pay and Allowance

Advanced pay can be drawn up to 60-days prior to your move. No more than three months of advance pay can be drawn and must be approved by your Commanding Officer. The advance is normally repaid in equal installments over 12 months. In certain cases, repayment can be spread over 24 months. If an advance for rental housing is needed, an advance housing allowance may be issued by the disbursing officer. You must have already rented housing and must provide a copy of the rental agreement to document the housing costs.

Dislocation Allowance (DLA)

Active Duty personnel are entitled to a Dislocation Allowance to offset some of the costs of closing one home and setting up another. These costs include rent deposits, utility hookups, etc. DLA can be drawn up to 10-days in advance.

DLA is not available to service members who:

- are without family members and are assigned to unaccompanied government quarters;
- are transferred to a new duty station or to the same geographical location; or
- on separation or retirement orders.

Per Diem Allowance

Refer to the Per Diem Rates chart for exact amounts.

Along with the DLA, food and lodging costs are reimbursed when making a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) move. The allowance is paid at a daily rate for you and your family members. Auto travel is at the rate of 350 miles per day (not to exceed the official authorized distance) and is used to determine how many days per diem will be paid.

Note that per diem may be drawn in advance. The Per Diem Allowance for:

- Service members is $99 per day, plus $74.25 per day for their spouse and each family member at least 12 years or older and $49.50 for family members under age 12.
- Spouses who travel separately, receive $99 per day (the per diem for other family members traveling separately is $74.25 or $49.50, depending on their age).

Note: These are not official rates.

Mileage in Lieu of Transportation (MALT)

- Service Member (alone)
- 15 cents per mile
- Family Member (alone)
  - 15 cents per mile
- SM + 1 FM or 2 FMs
  - 17 cents per mile
- SM + 2 FMs
  - 19 cents per mile
- SM + 3 or more FMs or 3 or more FMs
  - 20 cents per mile

These rates also apply to a second car, when use is authorized. Approval for usage of three Privately Owned Vehicles (POV) is required in advance.

**Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE)**

TLE is for PCS transfers within the United States. Access FAQs and answers about [TLE](#). TLE provides service members up to $180 per day (for ten days) to offset temporary housing costs incurred locally, before departing for an old duty station or after reporting to a new duty station. Personnel going overseas are entitled to TLE for five days. The actual TLE is figured by a complex formula and is different in each area. You must check into your command upon arrival in order to be eligible. TLE cannot be drawn in advance.

**Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)**

Basic Allowance for Housing rates are set by the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee. The link will take you to their pages for accurate BAH rates. For most bases in San Diego County you can use the 92136 zip code and access an accurate per diem rate.

Again Welcome Aboard!!!!!!