



FACT SHEET

Naval Medical Research Unit Six

NAMRU-6's mission is to conduct biomedical research in the field of infectious diseases and global health that is responsive to U.S. Navy requirements and delivers lifesaving products including knowledge, technology, and medical materiel that sustain the effectiveness of the uniformed service members through respectful cooperation with our collaborators.

PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

NAMRU-6, as the only Department of Defense command within SOUTHCOM area of responsibility, has an extensive portfolio of products from early discovery to advance development. Our research portfolio has focused on the epidemiology, pathogenesis and prevention of viral, parasitic and bacterial diseases. Activities focus on applied research to evaluate and test new vaccines, prevention strategies, treatment modalities, diagnostics, and novel insect control measures. Additional efforts have concentrated on disease detection, epidemiologic descriptions, and assistance to regional partners in developing surveillance systems, with a strong focus on viral pathogens, especially influenza, dengue, chikungunya and recently Zika virus.

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND OUTBREAK RESPONSE

Our investigators conduct laboratory-based and electronic syndromic surveillance throughout Latin America (8 countries), providing critical information to partner nations about possible evolving outbreaks and providing early warning to US Forces about potential global pandemics of disease with potential impact on military operations. Our laboratories are equipped to respond to serious outbreaks that threaten the health of our partner nations, their militaries and the military forces of the US.

RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS

- **Virology and Emerging Infections:**
 - Conduct acute febrile and respiratory illness surveillance throughout SOUTHCOM.
 - Conduct research-driven cohort studies providing knowledge on epidemiology and ecology of infectious diseases.
- **Bacteriology:**
 - Conduct field studies to determine the causes, biology and impacts on diarrhea in military and traveler populations.
 - Study the resistance patterns and molecular mechanisms on nosocomial bacterial infections.
 - Study the burden of sexually transmitted infections among high-risk populations.
- **Parasitology:**
 - Development, test and evaluation of vaccine products (e.g. vivax malaria) against the most commonly encountered parasite pathogens worldwide and in South America.
 - Production of high quantity of *Plasmodium vivax* sporozoites on captive *Anopheles darlingi* mosquitos to facilitate vaccine development research.
 - Performs test and evaluation of leading malaria drug and testing several rapid diagnostics against Leishmaniasis.
- **Entomology:**
 - Conduct lab and field studies to discover and test technologies that protect military personnel in deployed settings by studying the biology, taxonomy and population dynamics of mosquitoes, sand flies, and other insect vectors.
 - Maintains a colony of *Anopheles darlingi*, malaria vector in the Amazon region, for use in vaccine development and testing of novel control measures.
- **Biomedical Informatics:**
 - Efforts relates to the development, testing, monitoring, adoption, and evaluation of hardware and software solutions for the prevention of health threats of military relevance.

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