

1 Apr 08

MINUTES OF
HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS' COUNCIL

The Health Care Consumers' Council was held at 1000, Tuesday, 18 March 2008, at the Naval Health Clinic (NHC), Conference Room, Patuxent River.

1. CAPT McCormick-Boyle, Commanding Officer, Naval Health Clinic, Patuxent River (NHCPR), welcomed attendees and encouraged Commands to invite their Ombudsmen to attend this meeting.

2. LCDR Working, Director for Healthcare Business.

a. Customer Relations Officer retired in March. LCDR Working will be Acting until the position is filled and may be reached at extension 5-3681. Ms. Millen will be Acting Health Benefits Advisor/Debt Collection Officer and may be reached at extension 2-2761.

b. Navy Pregnancy and Parenthood Policy Summary of Changes to Policy (OPNAVINST 6000.1C):

(1) Requires Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Education Program implementation at MTFs with collaboration from Armed Forces Center for Child Protection, Fleet and Family Services (New Parent Support Program) and operational medical providers. All new parents will receive education about the dangers of shaking a baby prior to discharge from hospital or at the first well child visit if delivery was not at an MTF. All deployed new fathers will receive the same education from operational medical providers prior to reunification with their family. (Para 204)

(2) Requires Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) to implement a Prenatal and Postpartum Depression Screening Program so the servicewomen can be screened for depression during pregnancy and at the 6 week postpartum visit to enhance recognition and treatment of this common complication. (Para 206)

(3) Extends the postpartum deployment deferment period to 12 months. A waiver option is included for those who would like to deploy before the 12 month guideline (Para 104a, 104c (2) and (4) and 105d)

(4) Requires servicemen and uncomplicated pregnancies and deliveries to participate in an individualized exercise program that incorporates mild to moderate exercise. (Para 108 and 205)

(5) Restricts servicemen from providing surrogate pregnancy services. Guidance provided in SECNAVINT 1000.10A Department of the Navy Policy on Pregnancy and Parenthood. (Para 111)

(6) Reflects changes to the title 10 U.S. code requiring Commanding Officers to authorize up to 21 days permissive TEMADD for any service member adopting a child, dependent on the unit's mission, specific operational circumstances and service member's billet. (Para 202b. (1))

(7) Grants an exemption for service women who are participating in In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) cycle from participating in the Physical Readiness Program (PRP) to assist in the success of the IVF cycle and the Body Composition Assessment (BCA) during the active cycle due to expected weight gain caused by hormone treatments. If the IVF treatment is unsuccessful, then the servicewoman will be expected to participate fully in the PRP and BCA in 30 days (Para 207)

(8) Expanded breastfeed section to include workplace support. (Para 209)

c. Operation Purple Camps in Virginia and Maryland. Camps are held throughout the US with camps in New Castle, Virginia, beginning on 28 July and 4 August and in Chestertown, Maryland on 17 August. Camps are at no cost. Registration begins March 24th online at www.operationpurple.org and applications close May 5th. Camps are open to all military children. They will be asked to prove they are military dependents by way of military ID or other official documentation. If there are too many applicants per slots then there is a tier system set up to assist camps in selecting applicants. The main criterion is an 18 month deployment window from May 07 – November 08 and never having been to camp before. Camps are particularly focusing on pre, post, and current deployments. Reasons to send your child:

- (1) Free summer camps around the world for military children.
- (2) Fun camp activities.
- (3) Friendships to last a lifetime.
- (4) Support for dealing with the difficulties of deployment.

d. Diabetic Educators. LCDR Working and Ms. Even are Certified Diabetes Educators and Ms. K. Harvey is the Dietician at NHCPR. This team, along with other medical providers, delivers medical care and information to diabetic patients assigned to the Command. The American Diabetes Association website has a risk assessment survey which provides additional information regarding Type I and II diabetes.

e. Blood Pressure Cuffs. Currently in negotiations with MWR for placement of one blood pressure cuff machine at the Drill Hall. CAPT Scassero is working on funding for machines to be placed at VX-20 and HX-21. Flight Surgeons for VX-23 and VX-1 advised machines are not wanted at squadron spaces. Ms. Ashton has leasing information for commands that would like to fund a blood pressure kiosk. She may be contacted at extension 2-4050.

f. Patient reminder cards have been sent through March 2008 birthdays for 40 year old women for mammograms and 50 year olds for colonoscopy (this is an ongoing process). In April staff will review January list to see if patients came to Clinic for respective referrals.

3. LCDR Stephens, Director for Administration. Renovations will soon begin in Family Practice/Flight Medicine waiting rooms with five weeks estimated time of completion. During renovation, entrance to those areas will be the Quarterdeck. NHCPR appreciates the cooperation already received from our patients and we will continue to keep all patients informed about entrance, check-in area, seating or other changes related to the construction with signs, Tester articles and on the NHCPR web page.

4. LT Dotson, Patient Administration.

a. Individual Medical Readiness (IMR). Base readiness at 67%; DOD goal is 75% or better; DON 86% or better. Each command should have a Medical Readiness Coordinator (MRC) who tracks Medical Readiness information in the MRRS data base, keeping their command leadership on top of command readiness. This can be the same person who is the Command Dental Liaison. Please contact HM1 Raymond at extension 5-7486 to update your MRC information.

MRC meeting is conducted the third Thursday of each month to discuss Exceptional Family Member topics; Medical Readiness; Medical Readiness and conduct training, etc.

b. Post Deployment Health Assessments should be scheduled by active duty members returning from deployment prior to going on leave.

5. Mrs. Tyler-Lockett, Fleet and Family Service Center (FFSC):

a. Ms. Miller, Director, FFSC, recovery continues to go well. Ms. Linda Hotzenroader is Acting Director until Ms. Miller returns.

b. Ms. Vickie Ranger has joined the FFSC staff as Family Advocacy Counselor and Ms. Carrie George as Social Worker.

c. Lactation Stations are located throughout the base. Please contact Ms. Tyler-Lockett at extension 2-4911 for locations and information on loaner breast pumps (active duty has priority).

d. April is Month of the Military Child, which will focus on children of deployed active duty members, as well as Child Abuse Awareness Month.

e. Play Group (support group) occurs every Thursday from 1000-1130 at the Youth Center. In April this will take place outside at the playground at the Day Care Center. It is an opportunity for newcomers to meet people.

6. Mr. Carpenter, Manager, TRICARE Service Center:

a. Introduced Ms. Tracy Murphy, TRICARE Community Representative. Mr. Carpenter or one of his staff is available to give a TRICARE briefing to departing IAs. This can be for a group or individuals; all are welcome to come to the TRICARE Service Center for their brief, even if they plan to leave the Pax River area upon return from their IA tour.

b. TRICARE Survey Scam possibly being conducted. Alert members to be careful and give no personal information to anyone calling on behalf of TRICARE as TRICARE is not conducting a survey.

c. TRICARE contract states that TRICARE Service Center employees are not allowed to receive patient telephone calls. If a beneficiary calls the Quarterdeck and requests Mr. Carpenter and leaves a number, Mr. Carpenter will make every attempt to quickly return the call.

7. Ms. Kathy Chapman, Case Manager, briefed on case management services provided at the Clinic. Ms. Judy Rudy is the OB Case Manager and Ms. Heather Henderson is the Social Worker. Please pass this information to your members.

8. CDR O'Loughlin, Pharmacy: Pharmacy renovation will occur 23-27 April with new shelving and flooring to improve quality and safety in that area. Refills may be dropped off and picked-up at the Pharmacy 23-25 April (Pharmacy will be closed Saturday, 27 April). An alternate Pharmacy will be in the main Clinic's Conference Room for limited service.

9. CAPT McCormick-Boyle:

a. "No show" appointments discussed. Signs will be posted in individual clinics so patients may see the impact this has on patient care. This information will also be shared at the base CO and CMC meetings.

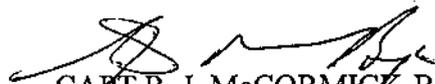
b. Standard of Care. If it cannot be met by a Military Treatment Facility for a beneficiary; medical care will be sought in the civilian network.

c. Civilian personnel who deploy must be in the same medical readiness status as active duty members, except they go through Occupational Health for their medical care.

10. The meeting adjourned at 1100. All representatives were asked to pass information from this meeting to all members of their command. The next Health Care Consumers' Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 20 May 2008.

If a representative would like to have a topic covered at this forum, please contact the Commanding Officer at extension 2-1462.

Submitted:



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Reviewed:



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