

C.A.R.E. Program FAQ's

Who is eligible for C.A.R.E.?

- Active Duty, Dependents and Retiree Members following:
 - Combat Trauma
 - Training Injuries
 - Civilian Trauma

What services are offered?

- Reconstructive Surgery
- Laser Treatments for Skin Discoloration
- Mental Health Support
- Caregiver Support

Do I have to pay?

- No, all treatment is reconstructive rather than cosmetic.

How do I enroll?

- Ask your health care provider to refer you for a consultation to "Project C.A.R.E." under MEPRS code BARC.
- Call (619) 532-5760
(619) 532-7110.

What can I expect?

- Multiple procedures may be required over several months.
- Results vary, depending on your injuries.
- Most patients are pleased with their improved appearance.
- Your surgeon will review the specifics of your case with you.

C.A.R.E. Team

Plastic Surgery

Otolaryngology / Facial Plastics

Ophthalmology Plastics

Oral Surgery

Orthopaedic Surgery

Dermatology

Wound Care

Mental Health

Medical Director

Craig Salt, CAPT, MC, USN

Physician Assistant

Robin V. Caballa, CIV, PA-C

Patient Coordinator

Patricia Buckley, CIV, RN

C.A.R.E. Administrator

Laiia C. Cardenas, CIV



C.A.R.E. services are also offered at:

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
Maryland

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth,
Virginia

Call 619-532-5760 or 619-532-7110 for more information

Naval Medical Center
San Diego

C.A.R.E. Program

Comprehensive Advanced
Restorative Effort



A multi-disciplinary patient care initiative to help restore function and improve the appearance of traumatically injured Service Members.

Background

As a result of combat trauma and training accidents, a great number of service members suffer major life-altering injuries, to include limb loss and severe disfigurement. Although our wounded soldiers, Sailors, and Marines receive cutting-edge, state-of-the-art care; the consequences of these injuries lead to emotional distress and an altered self-image.



Program Description

Once an active duty Service Member is traumatically injured and receives life saving treatment, he or she must begin the road to recovery. In the past, aesthetic improvement for Service Members was considered unnecessary and once a patient was considered functional, he or she was dismissed. Though oftentimes only small improvements can be gained, we believe that even the slightest improvement can dramatically increase self-esteem and quality of life. The C.A.R.E. program's focus is to improve the appearance and restore the function of traumatic injuries, through total patient rehabilitation.

C.A.R.E. Program



23 year old AD USMC shot with AK47 in the face while serving in Iraq. He received extensive surgeries to his nose and mouth, placement of a prosthetic eye, and 2 scar release surgeries to the right upper lip and right cheek.



28 year old Navy EOD injured in Iraq by rocket detonation while trying to defuse it. He lost one finger and had a total of 12 corrective surgeries. He presented with shrapnel in the palm and had restricted movement in the region of his scar and down-ward thumb positioning. He underwent laser treatments and steroid injections to the hand. He went from not being able to pull change from his pocket to "doing dead lifts in the gym" in 3 months.

REFERRALS

Ask your medical provider to enter a consult for "Project CARE" at the Naval Medical Center San Diego

Call (619) 532-5760 or (619)532-7110 for more information.

