

DHSS PEO Medical Logistics Division Supporting “Operation Tomodachi” Japan Relief Efforts

Information technology applications managed by the Medical Logistics Division of the Defense Health Services Systems Program Executive Office are actively supporting Japan relief efforts in Operation Tomodachi (Operation Friends). Operation Tomodachi is a United States Armed Forces assistance operation to support Japan in disaster relief following the 2011 Tonoku earthquake and tsunami.

The IT support includes consolidating reporting of materiel by location and quantity; tracking the receipt, storage, and distribution of supplies; tracking biomedical equipment needed in aeromedical evacuations; and tracking radiation exposure. U.S. Army Col. Chris Harrington, DHSS PEO Deputy Program Manager, says medical logistics teams around the world went into action immediately after the disaster struck on March 12, and have worked daily to provide requested help.

The Joint Medical Asset Repository is reporting global visibility on availability, location, ownership, quantity, and delivery status of much needed medical supplies including potassium iodine and radiation test kits. The Web-based JMAR is being used by the Services, the Joint Staff, the Defense Logistics Agency, the U.S. Pacific Command, and U.S. Forces Korea. *Please turn to page 2*



U.S. Navy Cmdr. A. D. Ragland, left, commanding officer of dock landing ship USS Tortuga, and Cmdr. John Barnett, right, executive officer, confirm instructions with a Japanese pilot, center, while the ship prepares to moor in Tomakomai, Hokkaido, Japan. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. K. Madison Carter/Released)



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. James Anderson of the 35th Logistics Readiness Squadron helps load pallets of humanitarian relief supplies at Misawa Air Base in Aomori prefecture, Japan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Marie Brown/Released)

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The Defense Occupation Environmental Health Readiness System-Industrial Hygiene is tracking radiation exposure for U.S. Army and Air Force active duty personnel, civilians, foreign nationals, contractor personnel, and family members stationed in Japan with the potential to extend to Korea, Guam, Alaska, and Hawaii. Also, the DHSS PEO is working closely with the Defense Manpower Data Center, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection & Readiness, TRICARE Management Activity General Counsel, and the TMA Privacy Office to potentially extend DOEHRS-IH's tracking capability.

The Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support System and the Theater Enterprise Wide Logistics System are tracking receipt, storage, and distribution of supplies available for Operation Tomadachi. Medical materiel assets in Korea, Japan, and Hawaii are being prepositioned and managed by DMLSS and TEWLS to support any contingency operations involving U.S. personnel and, if requested, to support any humanitarian or disaster relief operations. Both applications are used by military medical treatment facilities and medical materiel theater lead agents to



Japanese soldiers with the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force North Eastern Army, U.S. Marines with the III Marine Expeditionary Force, and U.S. Soldiers with United States Army Japan & I Corps, unload water and other supplies at a distribution center in Takata village, Japan. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Patricia D. Lockhart/Released)



U.S. Navy Chief Naval Air Crewman Steven Sinclair points from an HH-60H Seahawk helicopter flying over a coastal Japanese city affected by the tsunami following a 9.0 magnitude earthquake. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Kevin B. Gray/Released)

support DOD personnel, family members, and U.S. Department of State and host nation personnel in Japan.

The Patient Movement Items Tracking System is shipping two PMITS Rapid Deployment Kits to its PMITS Operations Center at Scott Air Force Base for shipment to Japan. Each kits includes a laptop, two mini scanners, a modem, and instructions on how to rapidly order and restock items used in medical transport. All biomedical equipment needed in aeromedical evacuations is electronically tracked and reported in PMITS.

The support will continue as the crisis continues to evolve, says Harrington. “We are continuing to expand the availability of JMAR to our users in and near Japan and will coordinate any expansion of radiation monitoring, if and when we are directed to go, and we will continue to monitor visibility for all medical materiel available and needed to help our friends,” he said.

For more information on DHSS PEO, click <http://bit.ly/g803mM>.

Military Health System Blue Button Initiative

Delivers A Federal First in IT Meaningful Use

Here on the front lines of health care information technology, the Department of Defense Military Health System is a test bed of innovation. We build and maintain IT solutions to help detect and contain the spread of disease, to deliver drugs and medical supplies worldwide, and to track the billions spent annually in health care services for its 9.6 million patients and beneficiaries.

On June 9, 2010, DOD launched an innovative federal first with release of its Blue Button capability on TRICARE Online, the Military Health System's global online health portal. We built our Blue Button using IT meaningful use standards created by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Markle Foundation and delivered it to our TRICARE Online users within days of a request by leadership.

Now TRICARE Online users can save their personal health information, such as medications, known allergies, and demographics into a portable document format (PDF) file or in a text download directly onto their individual computers. Since our release nine months ago, more than 5,000 users a week are accessing the Blue Button to review their own personal health data.

Why is this important? Because TRICARE Online users are actively seeking and downloading information they need to help better manage their own health. Instead of wading through reams of paper for their medical information, TRICARE Online users can view their personal health information online any time, anywhere.

In April, DOD will release a new, more intuitive interface to TRICARE Online to help users better navigate our website and which features a third enhancement to its Blue Button capability. In addition to downloading or viewing their own personal health



data, TRICARE Online users will see their own lab results, problem lists, and encounter data including the date, time, and location of every visit to a provider.

The Blue Button is one of many innovations DOD is creating in support of federal mandates to modernize health information technology and to support effective use of health information to improve patient care. As a complex, worldwide organization where security is at a premium, the challenges DOD faces in providing mobile access to personal health data are significant but not impossible. Through an extensive set of checks and balances, DOD is making sure TRICARE Online Blue Button users can only access their own information.

The MHS is coordinating this game-changing effort with our vendor and federal partners, including the Markle Foundation, the departments of Veterans Affairs, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, and Health and Human Services. We are forging the way forward in delivering secure access to individuals'

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personal health information and are bringing patients and beneficiaries closer into the decision-making processes of their own health care treatment.

The DOD and VA launched their Blue Button initiatives while facing the on-going challenges of securing the health data entrusted to our organizations and, together, we are helping to shape the future of health care IT collaboration, interoperability, and transparency which will result in improved outcomes for our most valuable partners, the patients and families we serve.

We are very proud to support our men and women, both active and retired, and we will continue to work hard to make their experience on TRICARE Online easier to use and, most importantly, more meaningful.

DHSS PEO Demonstrates TRICARE Online to Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Enhancements to TRICARE Online were demonstrated live to Dr. Clifford Stanley, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and Dr. George "Peach" Taylor, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs at the Pentagon on March 21.

The demonstration's purpose was to showcase the electronic health record capabilities available to active duty service members and veterans. Also demonstrating were representatives of the DOD Military Health System, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the DOD/VA Integrated Program Office.

The TRICARE Online demonstration was presented by DHSS PEO Deputy Program Manager for Clinical Support Jenna Noble and focused on the new Blue Button capabilities and additional enhancements coming in April. For more information about the Blue Button or other TRICARE Online capabilities, please visit www.tricareonline.com.

New Enhancements and On-time Delivery for DCAM Version 1.4

New enhancements to the Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support Customer Assistance Module were delivered on-time to the Defense Health Information Management System Program Office for integration into its Theater Medical Information Program. The TMIP integrated software suite offers clinical care documentation, medical supply and equipment tracking, patient movement visibility, and health surveillance in deployed settings.

Managed by the DHSS PEO Medical Logistics division, DCAM is an automated supply-ordering system used primarily by U.S. military health care professionals in theater operations. Displaying electronic supply catalogs, DCAM users can view, order, and monitor available medical supplies.

The enhanced DCAM 1.4 offers improvements in catalog management, document register, transaction register, and request handling. These improvements will help DCAM users to more quickly:

- Locate needed supply information
- Monitor supply status
- Identify necessary supplies
- Support customers

For example, the new version moves transaction details for document numbers to a separate transaction register which simplifies the presentation of data. Users can also filter the supply catalog or the local catalog by a catalog data list, making it easier and quicker to identify the right items to order and maintain. Most importantly, these enhancements allow DCAM users to find the information they need faster, said DHSS PEO Medical Logistics Division Deputy Program Manager U.S. Army Col. Chris Harrington. "This is especially valuable for DCAM customers in-theater because it helps minimize the effort required to manage their medical supplies by making it easier to ensure they have the right items available when needed for patient care."

The on-time delivery of the enhanced DCAM 1.4 was on Feb. 28, and it is now undergoing testing and integration by the DHIMS TMIP team.



eXpresso

TRICARE Online Users May See Invalid Certificates Warning Messages

Some TRICARE Online users may receive an invalid certificate warning message when logging onto www.tricareonline.com using Internet Explorer.

This warning message usually occurs to TRICARE Online users who access the Web portal from outside a government network. The warning messages may say, "security certificate error" or "untrusted site," and occur because the government issued authentication certificates are not being recognized by a user's home Internet browser.

Users who receive these warning messages should download a DOD certificate onto their home computers using these steps:

- Click onto: http://www.militarycac.com/CACDrivers/InstallRoot_v3.13A.exe
- Download the certificate to your desktop
- Once the download is complete, run the program
- Once installation is complete, please close all open browser windows before logging in to www.tricareonline.com

Once complete, users may receive a final warning message as they install the DOD certificate. Please click the "YES" button to continue.

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The DHSS PEO develops and maintains 32 products and initiatives for the Department of Defense Military Health System. For more information on DHSS PEO, please click <http://bit.ly/g803mM>.

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