



Joint Pathology Center



Health Affairs Joint Pathology Center Working Group (JPCWG) & Joint Task Force (JTF) Review of DHB Recommendations

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Clinical Scope of Service



- Define the scope of subspecialty services - **concur**
- Define in-theater support- **concur**
- Define the scope of service for telepathology-**concur**
- Define level of support provided to OAFME- **concur**



Clinical Scope of Service (con't)



- Process of handling individual cases, including accession, triage, disposition, flow, reporting, and quality assurance-**concur**
- Department pursue funding sources with other federal agency stakeholders-**concur**
- Encourage and embrace civilian collaboration-**JTF comment**: For clinical scope of service, if expands mission beyond NDAA08, would need to be on a case by case basis
JPCWG concurs with civilian collaboration for research/studies



Positioning of JPC within Command Structure



- Recommend positioning of JPC directly under JTF CapMed leadership rather than as a component of hospital-based pathology department – **JTF non-concur**
 - Extensive efficiencies gained through combining of administrative and technical resources
 - Maintains focus on clinical services provided by JPC
 - Consistent with civilian models

JPCWG recommends: JPC under WRNMMC
Commander and hospital pathology department
under JPC

JTF CapMed non-concur with JPCWG, has proposed
alternative to DASD C&PP



Projected Workload

- Recommend survey of federal agencies to determine current and future pathology needs- **concur**
- Recommend case complexity be considered when determining projected workload and staffing- **concur**



Tissue Repository

- Consider legal issues when non-DoD entities have access to tissue - **concur**
- Delineate access and usage limits of resources - **concur**
- Define route of access to specimens for civilian sector - **concur**
- Consider funding streams from collaborative agencies with industry - **concur**



Research

- Research agenda should not be developed autonomously but rather through DoD health research management process - **concur**
- Process for criteria, inclusion, and prioritization for protocol approval must be clearly defined in strategic plan - **concur**



Education and Training



- Define contributions by USUHS - **concur**
- Define level of GME support - **concur**
- Opportunities for collaboration and development with other professional organizations - **concur**
- Incorporate a method for adopting educational programs – **concur**
- Consideration of broad spectrum of interest areas
 - Aviation and accident forensics and investigation
 - Consistent with military treatment priorities and challenges
 - **concur**



Major Equipment / Special Design Requirements

- Strategic plan includes measures to procure equipment - **concur**
- Advises workflow considerations and physical location that would allow consolidation of all consultative services
 - Separation impedes efficiency
 - Not adequately addressed by use of courier
 - **JTF non-concur**: separation of consult service from histology addressed with robust, responsive courier system; alternative provides no clinical advantage
 - **JPCWG recommends concur** with concept, provided funding and facilities are available
- Establishment of state-of-the-art laboratories
 - Molecular laboratories- **concur**



Other

- Governance
 - Establish Governance Board of federal agency stakeholders – **JTF and JPCWG concur with caveat:** Advisory Board of federal agency stakeholders more appropriate; illustrates the need for common solutions for all DoD Centers and Institutes
- Organizational Structure
 - Utilize appropriate business practices to ensure adequate support and cost efficiency – **concur**
 - Periodic assessment of adequate resourcing as workloads clarify- **concur**



Other



Staffing

- Professional staffing issues: “Senior” vs. “junior”-level staff; salary, research, educational opportunities- **JTF and JPCWG concur with caveat:** must define staffing based on mission requirements; goal for most highly qualified individuals must follow regulatory hiring requirements
- Full man-power allocation review based on business plan – **concur**



Other



- Staffing (con't)
 - Ratio of professional staff to admin inadequate – **JTF non-concur** : Insufficient justification provided on standards, current plan developed on DoD standards
 - JPCWG recommends** assessment of personnel requirements

