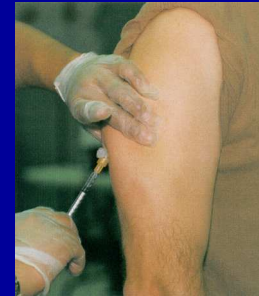


Military Health



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE Committee on Training Physicians for Public Health Careers 19 June 2006

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The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and not the official views of the Department of Defense



Agenda

- Overview of military Preventive Medicine
- Areas requiring an MD and public health skills
- What might attract physicians to public health



Army

- Army PM Residency Training
 - GPM+OM
 - AM
- “Public Health Departments”
 - Local - Installation Preventive Medicine Service
 - Regional - Regional Medical Command
 - National/International - Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
- Policy
 - OSD Health Affairs
 - Office of the Surgeon General/MEDCOM
 - Proponency Office for Preventive Medicine
 - Central Command
 - GEIS



Army (cont)

- Operational Units
 - Combat Divisions
 - Civil Affairs
- Academic
 - Uniformed Services University
 - Army Medical Department Center and School
 - Residency Programs (PM, OM, AM)
- Research
 - Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (including overseas labs)
 - US Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Diseases
 - US Army Medical Research Institute for Environmental Medicine
- Medical Examiner's Office



Air Force

- PM Physicians
 - PM Residency Trained
 - RAMs (AM + PM or OM)
 - GPM, many dual boarded in a prior clinical residency
 - Non-PM Residency Trained (probably highest number)
 - Usually other boards but some GMOs remaining
 - AM short course but not PM residency trained
 - More clinically focused (primary care + flight medicine/OM)
- Public Health Departments
 - Local (MTF): RAM, AM Flight Surgeon
 - Non-physician Public Health Officer (PHO)
 - MAJCOMs: RAM or Flight Surgeon
 - Regional (USAFE, PACAF): National/International
 - Functional (Air Combat Command, Air Mobility Command, etc.)
 - Air Force Institute for Operational Health (AFIOH): GPM, RAM, PHO
 - Epidemiology and Central Public Health Lab for the Air Force



Air Force (cont)

- Operational: Air Expeditionary Wing
- Policy
 - OSD Health Affairs
 - Office of the AF Surgeon General (AFMSA)
 - MAJCOMs
- Staff, liaison to key surveillance organizations
 - GEIS
 - DMSS/AMSA
- Academic
 - Uniformed Services University
 - Residency Programs (PM, OM, RAM)
- Assurance
 - Inspector General Office: PHO
 - MTF public health functions



Navy

- Operational Units: Marine Expeditionary Forces (MEF)
- Public Health Departments
 - Regional – Naval Environmental and Preventive Medicine Units (NEPMUs)
 - National/International – Navy Environmental Health Center (NEHC)
- MTF Clinical Epidemiologists
- Policy
 - OSD Health Affairs
 - Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED)
 - Headquarters Marine Corps



Navy (cont)

- Liaison with DoD Surveillance Organizations: GEIS, AMSA/DMSS
- Academic
 - Uniformed Services University
 - Residency Programs
- Research and Threat Assessment
 - Naval Health Research Center (NHRC)
 - Naval Medical Research Center
 - Naval Medical Research Units (NAMRUs)
 - Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center (AFMIC)



In the military, what areas require the combination of an MD and public health skills?



In the military, what areas would be optimally performed by an MD with public health skills?



Summary of Major Areas

- Public Health Leadership (local, regional, national)
- Define the medical threat
- Maintain the health of the Command (community)
- Prepare for and respond to emergencies
- Develop policies and interventions
- Risk communication
- Assurance
- Grow the bench



Public Health Leadership

- Establish priorities
- Secure resources and manpower
- Develop policies and programs
- Represent the specialty to military and civilian leadership, medical leaders, communities
- Recruit future PM physicians



Define the Medical Threat

- Surveillance
 - Reportable medical events
 - Syndromic
 - Lab-based
- Field assessments
- Medical intelligence
- Infectious disease, injury, environmental, toxic, psychological



Maintain the Health of the Command

- Provide advice to the Commander
- Diagnose and treat community health problems
 - Understand indications, contraindications, potential adverse events, clinical issues
- Promote healthy behaviors and environments
- Establish medical accession and fitness standards
- Clinical Preventive Medicine (Travel Medicine, HIV, TB, STDs, Occupational Medicine)



Prepare for and Respond to Emergencies

- Domestic and international
- Support to various populations
 - Military
 - Military beneficiaries
 - Civil authorities
- Disease outbreaks
- Natural disasters
- WMD (CBRNE)
- Environmental threats (TICs/TIMs)



Develop Policies and Interventions

- Doctrine and policy development
 - Interpret laws and regulations
 - Review reports from the field (after action reports, etc)
 - Codify a body of knowledge/experience and requirements into well written, easily understood guidance
- Research
 - Develop a research agenda
 - Obtain resources, manpower
 - Develop individual and population interventions



Risk Communication

- Disease outbreaks, deaths
 - Meningitis
 - Pandemic Influenza
 - Anthrax, WMD
- Explain the meaning of environmental exposures
- Cancer clusters



Assurance

- Insure polices and programs are implemented and supported
- Benchmarks, dashboards
 - Medical Readiness
- Command inspection programs
 - Chemical and Biosurety programs
 - Epidemiology and disease control
 - Environmental health, occupational health
 - Disaster preparedness
- Site assistance visits
 - Program reviews
 - Plan and SOP reviews



“Grow the Bench”

- Manpower, force development
 - Determine force levels
 - Assignment priorities
 - Recruiting
- Preventive Medicine training and education
 - Medical students
 - Residents
 - Certification courses
 - CME



What might attract physicians
to public health?



Nature and Variety of Activities

- Broader focus – the community as patient
- Prevention and wellness focus
- Evidence based
- Homeland defense, disaster preparedness and response
- International health, tropical medicine, refugee care
- Ability to be creative
- Communication, mass media
- Policy development
- Something different every day
- Work flexibility – not (necessarily) tied to an exam room
- Something different for a second career



Recruiting

- Increase the level of knowledge and improve the perception of Public Health in the general community
- Market Public Health careers to:
 - Undergraduates (premed)
 - Medical students*
 - Residents in other specialties*
 - Practicing physicians*

* Current focus of Army recruiting efforts



Improve the Job Market

- Demonstrate the value of physicians as public health leaders by looking at the quality of physician-led organizations
 - Policies, programs, evaluations
 - Ability to secure resources
 - Priority setting
 - Communication with leaders, communities, and clinicians
- Establish accreditation for public health agencies



Acronyms

- AFIOH: Air Force
- AFMIC: Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center
- AFMSA: Air Force Medical Support Agency
- AM: Aerospace Medicine
- AMSA: Army Medical Surveillance Activity
- BUMED: (Navy) Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
- CHPPM: (Army) Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
- DMSS: Defense Medical Surveillance System
- GEIS: Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System
- GMO: General Medical Officer
- GPM: General Preventive Medicine
- MAJCOM: (Air Force) Major Command
- MEDCOM (Army) Medical Command
- MEF: Marine Expeditionary Force
- NAMRU: Naval Medical Research Unit
- USAFE: US Air Forces Europe



Questions



Acronyms

- AFIOH: Air Force
- AFMIC: Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center
- AFMSA: Air Force Medical Support Agency
- AM: Aerospace Medicine
- AMSA: Army Medical Surveillance Activity
- BUMED: (Navy) Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
- CHPPM: (Army) Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
- DMSS: Defense Medical Surveillance System
- GEIS: Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System
- GMO: General Medical Officer
- GPM: General Preventive Medicine
- MAJCOM: (Air Force) Major Command
- MEDCOM (Army) Medical Command
- MEF: Marine Expeditionary Force
- NAMRU: Naval Medical Research Unit
- USAFE: US Air Forces Europe



Acronyms (cont)

- MTF: Medical Treatment Facility
- NEHC: Navy Environmental Health Center
- NEPMU: Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit
- NHRC: Naval Health Research Center
- NAMRU: Naval Medical Research Unit
- OM: Occupational Medicine
- OSD: Office of the Secretary of Defense
- OTSG: Office of the Surgeon General
- PACAF: Pacific Air Force
- PHO: (Air Force) Public Health Officer
- PM: Preventive Medicine
- POPM: (Army) Proponency Office for Preventive Medicine
- RAM: Residency in Aerospace Medicine
- SOP: Standard Operating Procedure
- TIC/TIM: Toxic Industrial Chemical/Toxic Industrial Material
- USAFE: US Air Forces Europe
- WMD/CBRNE: Weapons of Mass Destruction/Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives