



TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

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Tripler's new Integrative Pain Center holds open house

Honolulu – More than thirty Tripler Army Medical Center staff and guests learned more about various approaches to treating chronic pain at an open house today for Tripler's new Integrative Pain Center. The program, funded jointly by the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration, started up last July.

The clinic combines traditional and alternative medical therapies, focusing on treating combat veterans with chronic pain syndrome that may be associated with a range of obvious and not so obvious conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), as well as physical injuries.

The clinic staff introduced attendees to an array of therapy choice individualized for each patient, including chiropractic, pain psychology, orofacial pain management, interventional pain management, biofeedback, medical massage, virtual reality, and acupuncture. The program will demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of using a patient-centered, participatory model that can be sustained within the federal health care systems.



The open house for Tripler Army Medical Center's Integrative Pain Center began with a Hawaiian blessing ceremony by Kahu Kauila Clark and untying of a maile lei by center director Dr. Kathleen Brown and Brig. Gen. Stephen L. Jones, Tripler Army Medical Center's commanding general. U.S. Army photo by Leslie Ozawa.



Tripler's Integrated Pain Center's licensed acupuncturist Lan K. Kao takes the pulse of Spec. Rebecca Hansen, a mental health technician at the clinic. Chinese medicine measures five different heart rhythms to monitor a person's health. U.S. Army photo by Leslie Ozawa.