Asia-Pacific Military Medicine Conference deemed a success

Jan Clark
Pacific Regional Medical Command PAO

The 21st annual Asia Pacific Military Medicine Conference was held May 2-6 in Sydney, Australia. The United States Army Pacific and Australian Department of Defense, jointly hosted the event.

With over 400 attendees from 24 countries, the conference has become the region’s major forum for Asia-Pacific military healthcare professionals, with this year’s theme “One Team: Partnerships, Joint Medical Operations and Wounded Warrior Care.”

“This conference provides an opportunity for regional health professionals to network, knowledge share and leverage research and medical advances within the region, Maj. Gen. Paul Alexander, surgeon general, Australian Defense Force (ADF) and commander, Joint Health and co-host, said.

“Regional engagement through this conference is important in ensuring that there is an opportunity to benchmark military health services across the region,” he said. “Given Australia’s recent involvement in many disaster relief situations, understanding the contemporary healthcare issues facing our regional neighbors is helpful in ensuring that ADF health professionals can work effectively with their regional counterparts.”

Such relief efforts were addressed in kind by Rear Adm. Michael Mittelman, Command Surgeon, United States Pacific Command.

“Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with our Japanese colleagues as they continue to recover from the devastating earthquake and tsunami they suffered in March. This event underscores the perpetual risk of natural disaster in the region and the need for all of us to have the capability to respond locally and regionally. It clearly displayed the flexibility and resiliency of the Japanese health care system but also illustrated how other factors can add to the complexity of ultimate response,” he said.

Echoing those comments was fellow conference host, Brig. Gen. Keith Gallagher, command surgeon, USARPAC, in his opening remarks.

“Since we held this forum in Australia seven years ago, the world has changed dramatically and many events have occurred which have brought our military brethren together more closely than ever before. Just in the past year, we have witnessed unprecedented natural disasters that devastated communities in Queensland, Australia; New Zealand; Chile, Pakistan, Haiti, Japan and the southeast United States. Although our countries are separated by a vast ocean, it is through humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions that our nations and Armed Forces are often...
most strongly bonded.”

“The silver lining to these tragic events is the unique opportunities afforded for developing stronger relationships by learning from each other and working together to defeat ever-growing transnational threats. As aptly noted by Lt. Col. Gerard Wood, Royal New Zealand Nurse Corps advisor, and (one of) our plenary speakers, when it comes to a crisis, “It’s always good when you know who’s on the other end of the phone.”

During the week’s program, international subject matter experts covered such topics as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, synchronized operational medicine, state-of-the-art bio-prosthetics, traumatic brain injury, behavioral health, emerging infectious diseases, service member and family resiliency, veteran’s health and veterinary medicine.

New to the conference, was the established of a Senior NCO/medic track. Thirty delegates, lead by Command Sgt. Major Althea Dixon, U.S. Army Medical Command, focused on transformation and training, leadership in healthcare and medic development; key initiatives that translate directly into benefits to Soldiers on the battlefield.

Simulation medical training centers across the Army building confidence in medics. Joint training, as advanced by the United States’ Medical Education Training Campus (MEC) and the Defense Medical Research and Training Institute (DMRTI) has paid huge dividends in saving lives.

“An important takeaway from these advances is that these changes in training give gravely injured service members at least one more day to live. And one more day gives them the absolute greatest change for survival ever seen in the history of combat,” Gallagher said.

Gallagher left attendees with a few questions for discussion during the week.

“Is it possible to eradicate emerging infections, such as pandemic influenza, malaria and now resurgent polio from the planet?” “How can we learn from one another in adopting standardized protocols and collaborating further to reduce the pain and suffering of our people?”

“What else can we learn from the battlefields of Afghanistan and Iraq and how can we apply them to the Pacific theater?”

The conference closed May 6, with breakout session topics ranging from preventive measures of infectious diseases in warrior care to building resiliency, mind and body to optimizing health care.

Plans are underway for next year’s conference to be held in Thailand.
Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) and Operation Military Kids (OMK) cordially invite you to the 2011 SOS/OMK Family Camp. Our camp is for Families with children and teens (infants-age 19) who have lost a parent through Active Duty military service. It provides the opportunity for Families to participate in activities that rejuvenate the mind, body, and spirit in a relaxing, fun, and supportive environment. The camp will also provide Families the opportunity to meet other children and teens who have lost a parent through military service.

**Dates:**
July 15-17, 2011

**Location:**
Camp Erdman Wailua, HI

**Cost:** Free

*We kindly ask that one parent/caregiver per family attend the camp.

For more information or to RSVP please contact, Jenny Koranyi, SOS Coordinator, at 808.438.9285 or Jennifer.Koranyi@us.army.mil

**Please RSVP by June 10, 2011**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OPERATION MILITARY KIDS, PLEASE CALL 956-4125, OR EMAIL: omk@ctahr.hawaii.edu
Interested in furthering your professional education?

Army Nurse Corps officers interested in furthering their professional education may apply for selection to attend Long Term Health Education and Training (LTHET) graduate programs.

If selected by the LTHET Board and qualified academically for admission, officers will be given the opportunity to be fully funded to attend graduate school as full-time students.

All officers attending LTHET will receive all pay and benefits while in school, regardless of the program.

LTHET INFORMATIONAL SESSION WILL BE HELD June 16 at 8 am in room 5A026, OB/GYN Conference Room, 5th Floor, A Wing.

**Public Health Nursing Evening Clinic Pilot Program**

MAY 18 & 25
JUNE 22 & 29
JUL Y 20 & 27

Clinic will remain open until 2100.
Patients will be seen by appointment only

Patients must complete Part I of PHA Assessment (via AKO) prior to coming to their appointment.

POC: SGT Allison Lindsay
NCOIC Army Public Health Nursing
433-1464

PURPOSE: To better accommodate soldiers working "swing" shift and night shift hours, as well as those who cannot leave their place of duty during the day to come to their appointment.

**Mass School Physicals 2011**

The Department of Pediatrics will be conducting school physicals as follows:

- Date: Saturdays on June 18th, July 16th, and August 6th
- Walk-in basis only
- Time: 0900-1400
- Location: Pediatrics Clinic (808-433-0000)

**Feds Feed Families 2011 Campaign**

Feeding the Community

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER

When: June 1st, 2011 to August 31st, 2011
Where: All Hawaii Federal Agencies
What: Food Drive to collect food for the
- Hawaii Food Bank, Oahu
- Maui Food Bank
- Kauai Food Bank
- The Food Basket, Hawaii
Chaplain Thought of the Week: Faith and Planning

Chap. (Capt.) Timothy Stansberry
Resource Manager, Department of Ministry and Pastoral Care

“When planning for a year, plant corn. When planning for a decade, plant trees. When planning for life, train and educate people.”

–Chinese Proverb

Charles Swindoll says, “To walk by faith does not mean that we stop thinking. To trust God does not imply becoming slovenly or lazy or apathetic.

What a distortion of biblical faith! You and I need to trust God for our finances, but that is no license to spend foolishly. You and I ought to trust God for safety in the car, but we’re not wise to pass in a blind curve. We trust God for our health, but that doesn’t mean we can chain smoke, stay up half the night, and subsist on potato chips and Twinkies without consequences. Faith and careful planning go hand-in-hand. They always have.”

–A Man of Selfless Dedication.

May is Mental Health Awareness month

Capt. Mike Krage, a TAMC psychologist (left), and Pvt. Brittney Arlia, a Behavioral Health Technician, manned a booth by Tripler’s Oceanside entrance providing information to patients and staff on programs the psychology department provides, as well as a brochures on a variety of subjects related to mental health. “We have a brochure for pretty much anything you could think of,” Krage said, half-seriously.

The psychology departments booth was set up May 16, while the Psychiatric and Social Work departments set up in the same location May 17 and 18, respectively. Photo by Nick Spinelli

Do you have something exciting going on in your department? Would you like to get your story out? Special event go untold in the Schofield and TAMC areas that other may find news worthy. So, if you have something to say contact Jan Clark at 808-433-2809
USO to hold free military day at Waikiki Aquarium

Fish, Sea Life, Kids of Military Rock to Live Music

All active duty and retired military personnel and their families will be treated to an all-day free visit to the Waikiki Aquarium on Saturday, June 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Free Sara Lee hot dogs, drinks and snacks will complement the free admission to the Waikiki Aquarium, the third oldest aquarium in the United States.

Military from all service branches, with their families can enjoy viewing over 2,500 organisms on exhibit at the aquarium and experience sea life species such as reef sharks and fish, sea jellies, as well as living coral. This marks USO Hawaii’s yearly celebration of Military Appreciation Day.

Well-known comedian Frank De Lima will delight guests on stage from noon to 1:00 p.m. Military bands will perform in the afternoon from 1:00 p.m. to 2 p.m. The band “Separate Ways,” will be on stage from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the afternoon. “Separate Ways has gained notoriety performing in tribute to Steve Perry & Journey, the San Francisco rock band whose music sold millions in the U.S. and Worldwide. Expect hit tunes like Open Arms and Separate Ways, among others.

Children with be delighted with a clown, cartoonist, balloon animal artist, and other crafts activities highlighting their up close and personal experience with our tropical Pacific sea life. The Honolulu Festival Foundation will also showcase the arts and culture of Japan.

Active Duty, Reservists, Retirees, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Wounded Warriors and their families are welcome to attend the all-day event by presenting their military ID. There will be food vendor booths, a 1940 themed USO Canteen selling commemorative shirts, drinks and snacks. Military, businesses, healthcare and wellness, and community booths will also be there to serve 5,000 guests expected on June 25.

Free shuttle to and from military installations are scheduled starting 10 a.m. at Schofield Barracks, Fort Shafter, MCB K-Bay courtesy of the Japan Travel Bureau (JTB.) Shuttle service will also be provided through Pearl Harbor NEX.

For shuttle service schedules, contact base MWR services. For additional information, contact Eva Laird Smith, elsmith@uso.org 422 1213.

A partial list of event sponsors include TriWest Healthcare Alliance, Bank of Hawaii, BAE Systems, Watts Constructors, Sara Lee and Overseas Service Corporation, JTB and the Honolulu Festival Foundation, MWR, NEX, and K.I.D.S. with Foundation and charitable funding assistance from Aloha United Way, Hickam Officers Spouses Club, Boutiki Gift Shop, Kaneohe Officers’ Spouses Club, and the Jack and Marie Lord Trust.
Traffic update:
“With the heightened security measures at the entrance to Tripler Army Medical Center, staff and patients have endured long lines. In an effort to shorten entry wait time, from approximately 6 to 8 a.m., those in the left hand lane will be directed to turn left after passing the guardhouse. Once on Krukowski Street, ID cards will be checked and directions to either the Oceanside or Mountainside parking lots will be provided.”

DADT Tier II Training

10th Floor Conference Room
Friday, 13 May: 0600-0800

Kyser Auditorium
Thursday, 12 May: 1600-1800

**Mandatory for all Officers in the rank of CPT & Above**
We love our fans!

To celebrate reaching 5,000 fans in May, we’d like to honor you by hosting giveaways over the next five weeks. United Concordia will feature a different U.S. Branch of Service each week on our Facebook page and will give away service-specific teddy bears.

We’ll salute each branch alphabetically, starting with the Air Force on May 23, inviting any of our fans to register for prizes during these weeks.

To enter, visit United Concordia’s Facebook page at facebook.com/TDP.ADDP between 9:00 a.m. Monday and midnight on Wednesday of the following weeks:

- May 23
- May 30
- June 6
- June 13
- June 20

Only one entry per person will be accepted.

This is a random drawing, so spread the word to your military family and friends!

Note: Employees of Highmark and its subsidiaries (to include United Concordia) are not eligible for this drawing.