UNCLASSIFIED



# **DHA Research and Engineering Overview**

Dr. Saafan Malik October 12, 2022

## **Disclosures**

## The presenter has no interest to disclose.

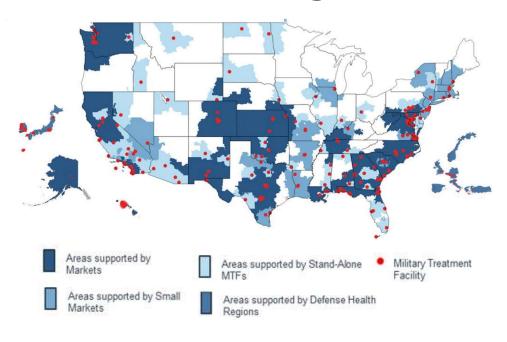
The views, opinions and findings contained in this presentation are those of the presenter and should not be construed as an official Department of Defense position, policy or decision unless so designated by other documentation.





# **Military Health System**

### A comprehensive, integrated healthcare delivery system



- \$50+ billion per year military medical enterprise
- 49 hospitals, 465 medical clinics, 192 dental clinics
- ~130,000 participating providers
- 9.6 million beneficiaries including 1.4 million active duty, 331,000 reserve-component personnel, military retirees, and family members
- University with accredited medical school and graduate programs
- ~\$2.2 billion medical research and development (R&D) program





## **DHA Strategic Priorities**

DHA supports the delivery of *integrated, affordable, and high-quality* health services at all military medical treatment facilities.

**1** Great Outcomes

**2** Ready Medical Force

**3** Satisfied Patients

Fulfilled Staff



Our MTFs sustain team-based currency and proficiency enabling a ready medical force

Our patients feel fortunate for MHS care that helps them achieve their goals

Our staff feel joy and purpose working in the MHS

Eight Strategic Initiatives Serve as Drivers for Change These initiatives work in concert to drive improvement in the above strategic KPIs

DHA FY22-FY26 CAMPAIGN PLAN

Implement Ready Reliable Care

Improve Patient Outcomes Care

Improve HQ Sustain the Right Performance Expeditionary Medical Skills Processes

Improve HQ Sustain the Right Place, Right Pl





## Ready Reliable Care to Increase High Reliability

Ready Reliable Care is DHA's approach to increasing high reliability across the Military Health System. Ready Reliable Care drives continuous process improvement that delivers great outcomes in readiness and health.

#### Seven Ready Reliable Care Principles



Preoccupation with Failure

Drive zero harm by anticipating and addressing risks



Sensitivity to Operations

Be mindful of how people, processes, and systems impact outcomes



Deference to Expertise

Seek guidance from those with the most relevant knowledge and experience



Respect for People

Foster mutual trust and respect



Commitment to Resilience

Leverage past mistakes to learn, grow, and improve processes



Constancy of Purpose

Persist through adversity towards the common goal of zero harm



Reluctance to Simplify

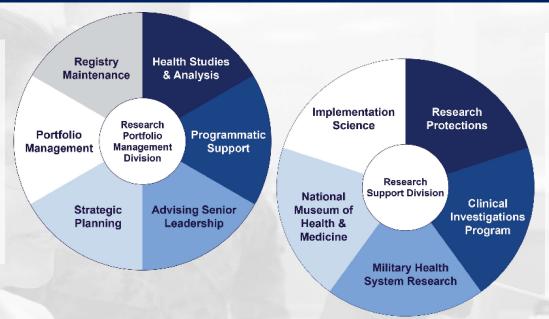
Strive to understand complexities and address root causes

## Research & Engineering Operational Viewpoint (OV-1)

**Mission:** Lead the discovery of innovative medical solutions responsive to the needs of Combatant Commands, the military Services, and the Military Health System

#### Inputs

- White House priorities
- Congressional mandates & inquiries
- DOD leadership priorities
- · DOD & DHA directives
- · Joint, validated requirements
- DHP RDT&E guidance
- DHA Campaign Plan initiatives
- Clinical gaps & priorities



#### **Outputs**

- S&T investment strategies
- Research transition agreements
- Strategic roadmaps
- · Clinical recommendations & guidance
- Agency-wide policies for clinical investigations
- · Efficient approvals of research protocols
- Research insights on MHS quality, variation, readiness
- Effective implementation of evidence-based changes to care

Ready Medical Force • Satisfied Patients • Great Outcomes





## **S&T Management Overview**

- DHA supports the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs in management and oversight of the Defense Health Program (DHP) Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) appropriation
- DHA DHP RDT&E oversight and management model has been evolving and improving over time
- Current and planned Science & Technology (S&T) reforms will centralize management of the investments and improve joint requirements alignment and product development
- Important step in the execution of NDAA 2019 Sect 711/737 and subsequent optimization efforts





## Medical R&D Investment Approach

- The DOD <u>leads</u> in key biomedical research areas: e.g., prolonged field care, en route care, forward surgical/intensive critical care, hemorrhage control and blood products
- The DOD <u>leverages</u> investments in areas where commercial technologies exist and can be tailored for military use: e.g., medical simulation and training, diagnostic systems, pain management, infectious diseases
- The DOD <u>watches</u> areas of emerging interest: e.g., medical radiological defense and other tech areas like artificial intelligence/machine learning





## **RDT&E Major Investment Areas**



#### Military Operational Medicine

- Musculoskeletal injury prevention and reduction
- Blunt, blast, accelerative, and neurosensory injury prevention and readiness
- Psychological health & resilience
- Performance in extreme environments
- Optimized cognition & fatigue mitigation

#### Combat Casualty Care

- Neurotrauma
- Hemorrhage control & battlefield resuscitation
- Prolonged Care
- Severe burn
- En Route Care
- · Autonomous care & evacuation
- Radiation health countermeasures
- Sustainment of medical expeditionary skills
- Military medical photonics

UNCLASSIFIED

#### Military Infectious Diseases

- Viral
- Bacterial
- Wound Healing





# DHA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) / Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs

- Congressionally mandated programs to increase participation of U.S. small businesses in federal research and development
- Support businesses in developing high-risk, high-impact medical materiel technologies with potential for wider commercialization
- Funding: FY21 SBIR \$63.1 Million, FY21 STTR \$8.8 Million
- DHA topic areas: combat casualty care, military infectious diseases, military operational medicine
- Resources:
  - SBIR-STTR website (sbir.gov) provides information on SBA policy directives, award data, and statebased proposal assistance coordinators
  - Defense SBIR/STTR Innovation Portal (dodsbirsttr.mil) offers DoD SBIR/STTR broad agency announcements, topic Q&A, and email list registration for updates
- Contacts:
  - CDR Tatana Olson, Program Director, <u>tatana.m.olson.mil@mail.mil</u>
  - Mr. JR Myers, Project Manager, james.r.myers38.civ@mail.mil





## Research, Acquisition and Sustainment Transition

**BLUF:** National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) FY 2019 and NDAA FY20 direct funding, manpower, and other resources from the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (MRMC) to be transferred to DHA. DHA will assume **authority**, **direction**, **and control** of medical **research**, **acquisition**, **and sustainment** capabilities previously executed by MRMC organizations.

#### **Updates:**

- Establishing plans and procedures to execute transition of USAMRMC to DHA
- Goal of transition planning ensures MRMC remains intact with minimal disruptions to personnel, processes and functions
- Congressional Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) will transfer into DHA intact with no changes
   to program processes
- Vast majority of medical RDT&E capability gaps are joint issues (i.e., hemorrhage control, resuscitation, vaccines)
- Linking RDT&E investments with the MHS enterprise supports improved outcomes across all roles of care



