



# NAVY AND MARINE CORPS PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER **UPDATE**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**From the Front Office**  
The Navy and Marine Corps  
Public Health Conference  
Returns **3**

**Population Health**  
Public Health Center  
Contributes to Community  
Preventive Services Task  
Force Annual Report to  
Congress **5**

**EpiData Center**  
EpiData Center Launches  
Web-based, Interactive  
Surveillance Dashboard **6**

**Health Analysis**  
NAVAIR Summit Steers Public  
Health Center Analytic Experts  
to Predictive Health Strategy  
for Naval Aviators **8**

**Environmental Programs**  
Risk Communication Workshop  
Cultivates Collaboration with  
Medical Services of U.S. Armed  
Forces **10**

**NEPMU News**  
NEPMU-2 Celebrates Black  
History Month **12**  
NEPMU-5 Provides  
Vector-Borne Disease  
Workshop for Navy Region  
Southwest **13**

**In Case You Missed It...** **14**

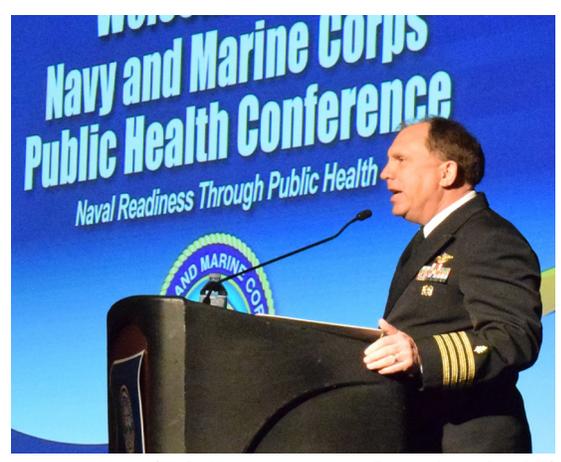
[WWW.NMCPHC.MED.NAVY.MIL](http://WWW.NMCPHC.MED.NAVY.MIL)

## From the Front Office

*By Capt. Todd Wagner, Commander, NMCPHC*

**Good Day Esteemed Public Health Colleagues!** As spring finally arrives (I think?!), we are just coming off a very successful 2018 Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Conference.

Attended by nearly 500 public health professionals from throughout the globe, it was truly inspiring to see the professional presentations, mentorship and collaboration ongoing in what we are hoping will be an annual event. I truly believe this conference is incredibly important to the continued growth in cooperation of our complex Navy and Marine Corps public health mission. It was great to see old friends and colleagues and to meet new members of our public health community for the first time.



*(U.S. Navy photo by Genevieve Baziw)*

We were also honored to have our Navy Surgeon General Vice Adm. Forrest Faison, Dr. Donald Shell from the Assistance Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (DHA), and the current U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Surgeon Capt. Darin Via as our outstanding plenary address speakers. They truly brought incredible perspectives from their unique positions and kicked off three days of incredible presentations on a variety of critical public health topics.

I simply could not be more proud of the incredible planning and execution of this complex event by the NMCPHC planning committee and members of our NMCPHC enterprise. We look forward to seeing everyone in the spring of 2019!

# Command Master Chief's Corner

By Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPO) Marsha Burmeister, NMCPHC

It is truly a dynamic time within Navy Medicine. Thanks to all who were able to participate in the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Conference and those who were able to attend the Surgeon General Leadership Symposium, "Year of Change".

Developing future leaders at all levels is paramount in order to meet the needs of our ever-evolving and growing Navy. Times are fast paced, diverse, complex and competitive. One new resource available to Sailors is [Laying the Keel – Developing the Backbone of Our Navy](#). This media focuses on setting the foundation for career continuum courses such as character, ethics, leadership, profession of arms, self-awareness and decision making.

Chief Petty Officer (CPO) 365 Phase II will remain for 1st class petty officers, however "Sailor 360: Continue the Conversation" will replace CPO 365 Phase I. The command will set the tone for this training, which will be available to all paygrades. Additionally, the command will align the expectations of every chief petty officer to the CPO Creed and ensure that alignment is reflected during CPO initiation.

Board eligible enlisted Sailors must ensure they meet the following established requirements:

- Navy Advancement Manual BUPERSINST 1430.16F, which is mandatory prior to frocking.
- Physical training (PT) activities during initiation conducted per OPNAVINST 6110.1J.
- Attendance of medical personnel and certified fitness leaders at all PT activities.

Vice Adm. Robert Burke, chief of Naval Personnel, released an article March 2018, [Growing to Win: Sailor 2025 – Navy's Strategy for People in our Future Fleet](#). The pillars for this strategy include a modern personnel system, a career learning continuum known as Ready, Relevant Learning (RRL), and career readiness for the long haul. The strategy also recognizes the importance of leader development, personal readiness, family readiness and life-work balance.

The U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery's (BUMED's) second iteration of Hospital Corpsman Trauma Training is underway at James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC) and John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital (Cook County). Students will be completing a one-week didactic at FHCC and six weeks of hands-on rotations throughout Cook County. This group will consist of first-term Sailors getting ready to undergo a permanent change of station to an operational assignment.

Happy 125th Birthday to Navy CPOs! Navy chief Navy pride!

Updated/implemented/refresher on policies and NAVADMIN's include:

- NAVADMIN 032/18 Selective Reenlistment Bonus Update
- NAVADMIN 052/18 - FY-19 Advanced Education Voucher Program
- NAVADMIN 085/15 Professional Military Knowledge (PMK)
- NAVADMIN 095/18 Brilliant on the Basics II Part A: Revisiting the Basics
- MILPERSMAN 1160-020 for guidance for conducting a re-enlistment ceremony
- Ready, Relevant Learning...Modernizing the Way the Navy Trains. Getting the Sailor to the Fleet Faster
- Sailor 2025Sailor 2025
- NEC Crosswalk Table – effective March 1, 2018

Thank you for the warm welcomes and hospitality at each and every site visit. Fair winds and following seas to all who are in the midst of retirement/change of duty stations. Thanks for your dedication to the mission and team.



# The Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Conference Returns

By NMCPHC Public Affairs

Back by popular demand, NMCPHC hosted the annual Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Conference in Norfolk, Va., March 20 - 22.

Over the course of three days, more than 400 conference attendees participated in presentations connecting to the theme “Naval Readiness through Public Health.”

“Prevention is key to force readiness and integral to keeping the force healthy today and for the threats of tomorrow,” said Vice Adm. Forrest Faison, Navy surgeon general and chief, BUMED, in his remarks during the opening ceremony of the conference.

The Navy and Marine Corps Public Health conference aimed to promote three overarching goals: multidisciplinary collaboration and communication on military-specific public health issues, officer and enlisted community mentoring and professional development, and formal training to develop skill sets and achieve required competencies.

“From monitoring and responding to outbreaks of disease to environmental exposure reviews, a very busy Influenza season this year, and the myriad of other challenges, Navy Public Health has once again been asked and has answered the call,” said Capt. Todd Wagner, commander, NMCPHC.

Active duty and civilian specialists in various Navy public health disciplines engaged in poster sessions, presentations and discussions on topics within the fields of preventive medicine, population health and environmental health.

“I have been able to meet new people, acquire new opportunities, see old friends, and learn the latest in Navy Medicine and public health, all of which I can take back to the fleet,” said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Sean MacKay, preventive medicine technician (PMT), Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Two (NEPMU-2).

In addition to the Navy Surgeon General and



Vice Adm. Forrest Faison, Navy surgeon general and chief, BUMED, kicks off the Annual Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Conference. (U.S. Navy photo by Genevieve Baziw)

commanding officer of NMCPHC, keynote speakers at the conference included Capt. Darin Via, command surgeon, CENTCOM, and Dr. Donald Shell, director of disease prevention, management and population health policy and oversight, DHA.

“Best practices will determine what will be effective in ensuring our service members can perform at their best...You have to make sure their most important equipment, their mind and body, is finely tuned,” said Shell.

Conference attendees participated in various sessions that facilitated a (cont. on page 4)

*(cont. from page 3)*

knowledge-sharing environment for military public health best practices.

“It’s invaluable for us to get together to cross-talk communities, discuss lessons learned, network and bring fleet issues back to the group to improve outcomes for preventive medicine technicians in the fleet,” said Senior Chief Randall Oakes, Navy PMT enlisted technical leader, Navy Entomology Center of Excellence (NECE).

As for next year, NMCPHC is on track for continuing the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Conference in 2019.

“It’s great to be back at the Public Health Conference! The conference has been good,

informational and a great way to renew old acquaintances and begin new friendships. I look forward to next year’s conference – better, bigger and greater than before,” said Jim Sherrard, head of health promotion and wellness, Naval Hospital Pensacola.

NMCPHC’s mission is to provide leadership and expertise to ensure mission readiness through disease prevention and health promotion in support of the National Military Strategy.

Read the full article here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/271697/navy-and-marine-corps-public-health-conference-returns>



## Upcoming NMCPHC Trainings and Conferences



### [DOEHRS-IH Training](#)

**June 18 – 22:** Naval Hospital Bemerton, Wash.

**July 9 – 13:** Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**July 23 – 27:** Branch Health Dental Clinic  
Norfolk, Va.

### [Disease Reporting System internet \(DRSi\) Webinars](#)

**June 26:** Case Finding for Medical Event Reporting

**July 31:** Top Five Misreported RMEs – How and Why

**August 28:** Introduction to the New DRSi

### [Health Promotion Advanced Training](#)

**June 26:** Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**August 14:** NEPMU-2 Norfolk, Va.

### [Occupational and Environmental Medicine \(OEM\) Fundamentals Course](#)

**September 10 – 14:** Naval Medical Center  
Portsmouth, Va.

### [ShipShape Program Facilitator Training](#)

**June 28:** Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**August 17:** NEPMU-2 Norfolk, Va.

### [Spirometry Training Course](#)

**June 19 – 22:** Naval Hospital Guam

**June 26 – 29:** Hawaii

**August 9 – 10:** Portsmouth, Va.

### [Tobacco Cessation Facilitator Training](#)

**June 29:** Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**August 3:** Walter Reed Bethesda, Md.

**August 16:** NEPMU-2 Norfolk, Va.

# Public Health Center Contributes to Community Preventive Services Task Force Annual Report to Congress

By NMCPHC Population Health Directorate

Mr. Bill Calvert, deputy director of the population health directorate at NMCPHC, collaborated with the Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF) to support its 2017 Annual Report to Congress: *Providing the Science to Support Military Readiness and Resilience*.

This report highlights how CPSTF recommendations are used to support the readiness and resilience of service members with an emphasis placed on the challenges of obesity, tobacco use and excessive alcohol use. The report also identifies important evidence gaps researchers, evaluators and funders may choose to address as well as priority areas for future CPSTF work.

Mr. Calvert, who serves as the Navy Liaison for the CPSTF, shared how the Department of the Navy (DON) uses recommendations from the [Guide to Community Preventive Services \(The Community Guide\)](#) to drive and support policy changes as well as design, benchmark and improve interventions that enhance the health, safety and wellbeing of service members, beneficiaries and civilians.

Obesity, tobacco use and alcohol abuse pose significant threats to military readiness and resilience. The Community Guide was cited in position papers that drove changes to the DON's tobacco policy, which included prohibiting tobacco use on submarines and medical facility campuses as well as eliminating the discounted pricing for tobacco products.

The recommendations were also used to design and implement various individually adopted behavior change programs and worksite health programs, such as the "Navy's Culture of Fitness" and point-of-decision prompts.

NMCPHC implemented a [Health Risk Assessment \(HRA\)](#) program that provides service members direct feedback on lifestyle behaviors in combination with other interventions and the [Blue-H Navy Surgeon General's Health Promotion and Wellness Award](#)

program which is awarded to commands who follow criteria based on effective workplace programs.

"The Community Guide remains my best reference to incorporate interventions proven to work, which is valuable for the Navy given its limited resources. This is important, especially with the impending changes resulting from the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2017," said Mr. Calvert, "Our focus is to support a medically ready force and improve the adoption of lifelong healthy behaviors for our service members. The Community Guide helps us do that and meet our mission".

The CPSTF is an independent, nonfederal, nonpartisan panel of experts in public health appointed by the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its members represent a broad range of research, practice and policy expertise in community preventive services, public health, health promotion and disease prevention.

The CPSTF helps improve the health of all Americans by identifying community preventive programs, services and other interventions that save lives and dollars, increase longevity and improve quality of life.

To learn more about the health promotion programs at NMCPHC, visit: [www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/health-promotion/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/health-promotion/Pages/default.aspx)

To read the full report, visit: <https://www.thecommunityguide.org/content/2017-annual-report-congress>

# EpiData Center Launches Web-based, Interactive Surveillance Dashboard

By Angela Schlein, *epidata center, NMCPHC*

Beginning in late spring, the NMCPHC epidata center's (EDC) partners in public health surveillance have a new way to view—and interact with—the latest antimicrobial resistance (AMR) information from the Military Health System (MHS).

The EDC has begun development of a web-based, interactive dashboard featuring new tools and redesigned reports that support patient safety and enterprise-wide antibiotic stewardship programs. The online format decreases production time through systematic efficiencies and provides users with customizable, actionable information displays and quick access to current and historical data.

“Our initial customer feedback has been really positive,” said Azad Al-Koshnaw, EDC division officer, NMCPHC. “The dashboard presents information in a friendly, efficient way, and registered users can immediately review data of interest without hands-on support from an epidemiologist.”

## The ASPP Tool

The Antibiotic Susceptibility and Prescribing Practices (ASPP) tool is one of the EDC's new web-based resources for AMR surveillance. ASPP provides interactive visualizations of actionable drug resistance and consumption information, including state and regional geographic mapping in the U.S.

“The idea for ASPP came from a conversation I had with one of our customers, an infection control preventionist,” said Jessica Spencer, epidemiologist, NMCPHC. “She received AMR information specific to her local facility, but wanted simultaneous visibility on other MHS facilities in the area under her jurisdiction, too. AMR is constantly evolving and highly dependent on regional trends, so the ASPP tool is a way to make this critical data available to all stakeholders.”

Registered ASPP users can customize information displays by choosing among 26 bacterial organisms, 34 antibiotics in 14 antibiotic classes, and more than 10 years of historical data from the MHS. These options make it easy for clinicians and providers in the infection control community to determine if the most frequently prescribed drugs in an area are effective given local resistance trends. For example, in a region where ASPP maps show *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria exhibiting high resistance to erythromycin, providers may prescribe an alternative antibiotic for treatment of methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) infections.

## Monthly MDRO Surveillance Reports

In addition to the ASPP tool, the first of several routine surveillance reports have been redesigned and migrated to the dashboard.

Monthly, the EDC produces 83 reports detailing the activity of 19 multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) at individual military treatment facilities (MTFs) and in each service branch. *(cont. on page 7)*



*Members of the AMR dashboard project team pose for a photograph in the EDC at NMCPHC. (U.S. Navy photo by Genevieve Baziw)*

(cont. from page 6)

“The best part of the new report format is its adaptability. Because of the data’s structure, we can now query any MTF, region, or group to generate a useable report for a customer in a matter of minutes,” said Sarah Gierhart, epidemiologist, NMCPHC. “As more MTFs request to be enrolled in our surveillance, I can quickly grant them access to their data on the dashboard.”

Traditionally, the MDRO reports were produced manually using Microsoft Office and delivered via email, but the new web-based versions reduce production time from three weeks to one week, an impressive efficiency that is largely due to automation and data import functions developed by NMCPHC EDC Programmer Thomas Hager. In addition, registered MDRO report users can easily explore MDRO trends with dynamic customization options and immediate access to historical data.

## Antibiotic Stewardship Surveillance Report

The EDC is a key contributor to the National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (CARB) through active participation in programs such as the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). The EDC submits MHS data to the NHSN monthly for inclusion in nationwide surveillance and to support antibiotic stewardship efforts. Building upon the NHSN data, the EDC produces a quarterly Stewardship Antibiotic Report (STAR) for the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, a tri-service working group that was established to support and formalize stewardship policy and provide implementation guidance in the Department of Defense (DoD). STAR was designed for publication on the dashboard and directly supports these goals.

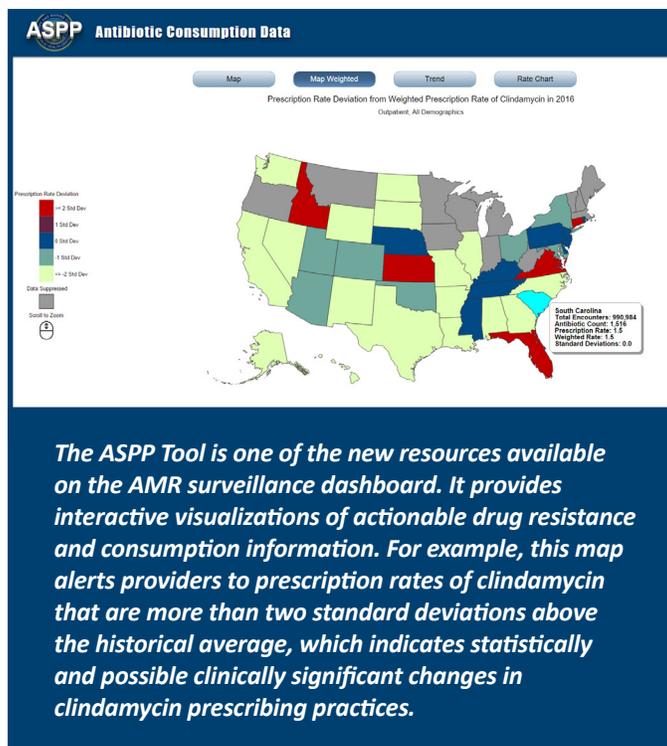
## Project Development and Next Steps

The ASPP Tool, monthly MDRO reports, and quarterly STAR are the first elements created for the EDC dashboard and their development has paved the way for future expansion.

“We have access to an overwhelming amount of data, but we wanted the dashboard to be useful and relevant to our customers,” said NMCPHC EDC

Programmer Andrew Tucker, who developed all user interfaces. “The toughest part of this project was determining what data to show and the best way to show it.”

“Striking that balance took a lot of conversation between the epidemiologists and the developers,” said Spencer. “We proposed some really crazy requests, but the developers would make them happen—and fast. That flexibility and responsiveness was key to the project’s success and the best part of this collaboration.”



From conception to test site launch, the first dashboard resources were completed in seven months and ready in time for demonstration at the NMCPHC conference in March.

Looking ahead, the EDC plans to redesign the monthly carbapenem-resistance report for inclusion on the dashboard. The EDC is also exploring opportunities to incorporate other resources on the site, including surveillance related to communicable diseases, behavioral and operational health conditions, and occupational/environmental exposures and injuries.

Are you a partner in MHS antibiotic stewardship? To request access to the AMR surveillance dashboard and the resources described here, please [email the EDC](#).

# NAVAIR Summit Steers Public Health Center Analytic Experts to Predictive Health Strategy for Naval Aviators

By NMCPHC Health Analysis Department

The health analysis (HA) and EDC departments of NMCPHC are partnering to help Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) identify potential causes and risk factors for physiologic episodes affecting naval aviators flying T-45 and F-18 jets.

The collaboration between the two NMCPHC analytic entities combines powerful capabilities of medical surveillance, aerospace medicine and clinical analysis to generate information that will help the naval aviation community predict, and ultimately prevent adverse events.

A physiological episode occurs when aircrew experience symptoms such as dizziness, visual impairment or altered mental status due to cabin environmental effects, hypoxia, contamination of breathing air, or other factors in the flight environment. The causes are often unclear.

In January, representatives from EDC and HA traveled to Orlando, Fla. to attend the NAVAIR Big Data Summit II, a meeting of aerospace and mechanical engineers, healthcare providers and analytic professionals from around the globe.

This collaborative meeting united representatives from a variety of military and government agencies including: NAVAIR, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Naval Safety Center, the Center for Naval Analysis and the Australian Air Force.



*A U.S. Navy F-18 Growler departs after receiving fuel from a U.S. Air Force KC-10 Extender during a mission in support of Operation Inherent Resolve over Syria, Aug. 4, 2017. The F-18 is an airborne electronic attack aircraft providing support to joint and Coalition partners fighting ISIS in Southwest Asia. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Trevor T. McBride)*

The intent was to combine existing knowledge with emerging technology and advanced analytics in a collaborative environment to understand the engineering and human factors leading to physiologic episodes.

“The summit was such an eye-opening experience,” said Jessica Newton, lead epidemiologist for HA, NMCPHC. “It was so helpful to hear from experts in other fields to gain a better perspective of the role that analytics plays across the spectrum of DON, not just the medical piece we are often (cont. on page 9)

## A physiologic event (PE) is defined as follows:

- Unanticipated symptoms of one or more somatic disturbances occurring during flight.
- The symptoms are distracting to the safe operation of the aircraft or degrades the mission capability of the aircrew.

*(cont. from page 8)*

focused on. Combining our expertise helps to tell a more complete story.”

Initial approaches to prevent physiologic episodes typically focused on engineering factors like oxygen levels, but while equipment and mechanics can be standardized, the human element remains a complex, but critical variable.

“We think of physiologic events in terms of the human/machine interface – two complex systems interacting under stressful circumstances to produce precision results,” said Dr. Michael Krentz, retired Navy captain and former aerospace medicine doctor currently providing clinical expertise to HA.

After the summit, the collaborative NMCPHC team returned to Portsmouth, Va. to leverage their epidemiologic, biostatistics and clinical expertise to create an analytic strategy which was delivered to NAVAIR and Navy Medicine Operational Medicine Clinical Community leadership.

Key aspects of the analytic plan include:

- Summarizing Navy flight surgeon reports of physiologic episodes.
- Exploring differences in aviator healthcare utilization.
- Identifying critical factors associated with a physiologic episode.

As the project evolves, the NMCPHC analytic team continues to attend NAVAIR’s monthly Big Data Drum Beat to share updates and discuss available findings.

Representatives also support the soon-to-be chartered Aeromedical Action Team to remain in close contact with aviation experts as details emerge.

With readiness at the forefront of our minds, a medically ready aviator is key to combat and mission success. “We are excited to lend our analytic support to the naval aviation community,” said Ms. Tina Luse, EDC division lead, NMCPHC. “Through this collaboration, NMCPHC will be able to provide actionable insights for aviation leadership to meet mission objectives.”

For more information about Health Analysis at NMCPHC, visit <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcpHC/health-analysis/Pages/default.aspx>



*Landing signal officers direct the landing of a T-45 Goshawk, a two-seat, single-engine carrier training jet assigned to Training Air Wing (TW) 1, from the landing area of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65). Enterprise is underway conducting carrier qualifications. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Milosz Reterski)*

# Risk Communication Workshop Cultivates Collaboration with Medical Services of U.S. Armed Forces

By NMCPHC Public Affairs

NMCPHC hosted a three-day public health risk communication and media workshop at the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Virginia, March 26 - 28.

The goal of the workshop was to develop the communications planning and execution skills of military and civilian personnel working across multiple medical services within the U.S. Armed Forces regarding issues that could impact those stakeholders affected by their command's mission, both crisis and non-crisis.

"At the end of the day, whether it is a local food-borne illness outbreak, a global infectious disease outbreak such as Ebola, or a safe drinking water issue, it all boils down to health," said Dr. Paul Gillooly, environmental programs, NMCPHC. "People want to know whether they have been exposed, what their risk is, how does it affect their health, their families' health, and will that exposure cause illness and disease later in life."

In accordance with the current DHA initiative to identify efficiencies in delivery of risk communication products and services, the course facilitated collaboration among personnel from across Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force and Coast Guard medical services.

"Even though our group has identified a significant shortfall in risk communication experts and training across each service, as a group we decided to open up a limited number of seats in the formal training we offer to the other services to better leverage those training opportunities worldwide," said Gillooly, chair of the DoD DHA Risk Communication Working Group.

The training was well-received by attendees, including Cmdr. Greg Fairchild, one of several Navy radiation health officers (RHOs) who deal with stakeholders who aren't familiar with radiation on a daily basis.

"There are so many misconceptions about radiation that risk communication is nearly an everyday activity for RHOs," said Fairchild. "The training and tools provided in this class are key to being effective in our communications."

To effectively communicate key messages to a larger audience of stakeholders in-person and in-writing, risk communicators must be acutely aware of risk perception factors, how people decide something is a risk, and the extent to which they decide that risk affects them personally.

**“ Risk communication is invaluable in public health and we need to practice regularly to ensure we maintain the skills to communicate our messages well. ”**

"Otherwise we run the risk of escalating, instead of de-escalating, a health risk issue," said Gillooly.

Lessons in the workshop included role-playing exercises to help attendees strengthen their communications skills.

"The course offers effective lessons and real-life scenarios to practice communication techniques with engaging instructors," said Cmdr. Harold Hurst, chief of environmental health branch, Health, Safety and Work-Life Service Center, U.S. Coast Guard. "Participants improve all their communication abilities, not only in a professional (cont. on page 11)

(cont. from page 10)

capacity for internal and external organization success, but also for their personal life.”

“Risk communication is invaluable in public health and we need to practice regularly to ensure we maintain the skills to communicate our messages well,” said Col. Monica Selent, headquarters Air Combat Command Langley, U.S. Air Force. “This course did a great job in teaching these skills and building on them by practicing in many different scenarios any of us would encounter.”

In addition to Gillooly, the workshop training team included Mr. Bill Stover, environmental programs, NMCPHC, and Keith Fulton and Sandy Martinez, president and CEO, respectively, of Fulton Communications, all of whom possess decades of experience in the field of communications consulting and training.

“This course helps participants connect to their audiences using effective risk communication tools and principles,” said Debra Colbeck, health risk communicator, Army Public Health Command.

“I would highly recommend this course to anyone looking to improve communications and stakeholder relationships.”

“Our goal is to build a network of Navy environment, safety and health scientists who can, on a daily basis, develop strategies to help ensure people get the information they need when they need it and in a format they can easily understand,” said Martinez. “This will help build and maintain trust and credibility, resolve conflict and ensure the long-term success of our Navy organizational goals.”

In addition to conducting this workshop, NMCPHC is also available to conduct executive risk communication briefs and site and topic-specific training for environment, safety and health projects.

Read the full article here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/271696/risk-communication-workshop-cultivates-collaboration-with-medical-services-us-armed-forces>



(Left to right) Dr. Amy DeLong, toxicologist, NMCPHC; Lt. Cmdr. Gretchen Burns, industrial hygiene officer, NEPMU-2; Nell Moody, contractor, NMCPHC; and Paul Ryan Gillooly, contractor, Langley Research Center participate in a role-playing exercise during the NMCPHC Risk Communications Workshop at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, March 27, 2018. (U.S. Navy photo by Genevieve Baziw)

# Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Two Celebrates Black History Month



*By Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Tavonda Mcghee and Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Ananda Stevenson, NEPMU-2, Public Affairs*

Staff from NEPMU-2 hosted a Newsome House Museum and Cultural Center presentation paying homage to African-American History Month, Feb. 23.

The celebration was organized in partnership with the Newsome House's Director Crystal Sessoms, and NEPMU-2's Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Tavonda Mcghee, a member of the unit's Diversity Committee.

"Pausing to remember history that accounts for a collective part of our national history promotes dignity and worth of everyone," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Sean Hurley, NEPMU-2.

NEPMU-2 has a standing culture that upholds Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute's (DEOMI) Guiding Principles of Diversity. The unit maintains an understanding that our strengths derive from our differences as well as our shared values, goals and ethics.

"February is a national time for reflective observance of the mourning and celebrations of African American strivings. Being able to bridge the gap from my ancestor's past to present in unison with leadership, shipmates and staff is a gratifying experience," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Ananda Stevenson, NEPMU-2.

Through storytelling, song and dance, Sessoms and her colleague Nina Brewton provided the staff of NEPMU-2 an inspirational depiction of African-American contributions and achievements, creating awareness of the struggles and challenges African Americans triumphed in our country.

The Newsome House is located in the heart of Newport News, Virginia and is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register, the National Register of Historic Places and a recipient of a 1992 National Historic Preservation Award. There you will find displays on

Thomas Newsome, the museum's namesake and varying exhibits available throughout the year.

**“ Pausing to remember history that accounts for a collective part of our national history promotes dignity and worth of everyone. ”**

"This is African American History Month and we are recognizing it now, but it doesn't mean we stop at March 1st. We need to recognize our history, recognize our culture because it is the diversity that makes us strong," said Cmdr. Marion Gregg, officer in charge, NEPMU-2.

This commemoration of African American history fostered a keen sense of inclusion and safeguarded the Navy's initiative on community engagement. As stated on the Navy Recruiting Command's website, "America's Navy starts in our own neighborhoods, with our people, our opportunities for growth and success, and our culture. We recognize that diversity offers an exceptional way for the Navy to strengthen itself, and we support and encourage it in our ranks at every level, including senior leadership."

For more information on the Navy and diversity, visit <https://www.navy.com/navy-life/diversity/current-and-future.html>

# Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Provides Vector-Borne Disease Workshop for Navy Region Southwest



By Lt. Jen Knapp, NEPMU-5 Public Affairs

The Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Five (NEPMU-5) conducted a vector-borne disease workshop at Naval Base San Diego, April 24.

Forty participants that included entomologists, environmental health officers, preventive medicine technicians, public works employees, housing representatives and vector control personnel attended the workshop.

“The purpose of this event is to provide a collaborative learning space where individuals are empowered to make force health protection decisions based on the most current information available,” said Dr. Mahmood Nikbahkt Zadeh, NEPMU-5 entomologist and the workshop’s organizer.

**“The goal of this workshop was to empower our personnel to make informed, data-driven decisions in regards to integrated pest management and force health protection.”**

San Diego County’s Supervising Vector Ecologist Chris Conlan attended the event and gave a talk on the current state of the vectors that transmit Zika and dengue in San Diego. Conlan also offered advice on communicating risk to stakeholders.

“NEPMU-5 has a multidisciplinary staff that is uniquely capable of responding to multifaceted public health issues in our region,” said Cmdr. Shelton Lyons, officer in charge, NEPMU-5. “We have preventive medicine officers, entomologists, microbiologists and environmental health officers all under one roof [who are] capable of responding as a center of excellence.”

Workshop speakers discussed the biology, surveillance and control of mosquitoes that carry dengue and Zika virus, along with general disease information, integrated pest management best practices and risk communication.

“Vector-borne diseases represent a complex public health concern that requires collaboration from all of our Navy and civilian stakeholders,” said Lyons. “Overall, the goal of this workshop was to empower our personnel to make informed, data-driven decisions in regards to integrated pest management and force health protection.”

Read the full article here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/274428/navy-environmental-and-preventive-medicine-unit-provides-vector-borne-disease-workshop-navy-region-southwest>

# In Case You Missed It...

## NEPMU-5 Wins San Diego Military Advisory Council Community Achievement Award

*By NEPMU-5 Public Affairs*

NEPMU-5 was selected as the winner of the 11th Annual San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC) Community Achievement Award. The award recognizes units who, by volunteering, have had a profound impact on the community.

Read the full story here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/271642/nepmu-5-wins-san-diego-military-advisory-council-community-achievement-award>

## NECE's Project Sea Raven Delivers Cutting-Edge Pathogen Detection Technology to the Fleet

*By NEPMU-7 Public Affairs*

In support of Pacific Partnership 2018, the entomologists and civilian staff of the Navy Entomology Center of Excellence (NECE) delivered cutting-edge technology for disease surveillance to the crew of the USNS Mercy (T-AH 19). The mission was part of NECE's Project Sea Raven, an effort that is based on providing a highly mobile, complete pathogen surveillance and warfighter protection kit.

Read the full story here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/277715/neces-project-sea-raven-delivers-cutting-edge-pathogen-detection-technology-fleet>

## NME Staff has the Motivation to Push People in More Ways than One

*By Petty Officer 2nd Class Stephane Belcher, Navy Medicine East (NME) Public Affairs*

Michael Davis, a contract specialist, NME, who is legally blind, will run in the Boston Marathon for the fourth time this year with his guide, and will mark the first time ever a legally blind runner will push an autistic rider in the marathon with a guide.

Read the full story here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/272770/nme-staff-has-motivation-push-people-more-ways-than-one>

## NEPMU-5 Participates in First-Ever Advanced Field Water Course

*By NEPMU-5 Public Affairs*

NEPMU-5 participated in the pilot Advanced Field Water course at Naval Base San Diego, April 30 - May 3, 2018. The course was developed by NMCPHC to address knowledge gaps for the preventive medicine components of the Forward Deployable Preventive Medicine Unit (FDPMU) in relation to military field water operations under Navy guidance.

Read the full story here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/276089/navy-environmental-and-preventive-medicine-unit-participates-first-ever-advanced-field-water-course>

Connect with NMCPHC!



Facebook



Twitter



Pinterest



YouTube



LinkedIn