Joint Task Force
National Capital Region Medical

Joint Pathology Center Update for the Defense Health Board

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Background

- BRAC 2005: AFIP must be disestablished by September 2011
- NDAA 2008, paragraph 722:
  - JPC must be established within DoD
  - Mandate is consistent BRAC law
- Mission was delegated to:
  - Department of Defense: 28 April 2009
  - JTF CAPMED: 19 December 2009
- JTF CAPMED Implementation Team
  - Members: three services, VA, USUHS, AFIP, JTF CAPMED, Army EA, Health Affairs
  - Activities: performed gap analysis, developed detailed concept of operations, drafted JPC establishment plan
- JTF CAPMED Transition Team
  - Activities: Developing operation plan; assisting in personnel, equipment, budget, facilities issues, etc.
- JPC Office of the Director: Established 01 October 2010
The Five Pillars of the JPC

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Pathology Consultation</th>
<th>Tissue Repository</th>
<th>Pathology Research</th>
<th>Pathology Education</th>
<th>Strategic Partnerships</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full spectrum surgical pathology consultation utilizing state-of-the-art technology</td>
<td>Maintain and modernize the world’s largest tissue repository</td>
<td>Pathologist-driven research</td>
<td>Provide Graduate Medical education rotations and other support to federal government residencies and fellowships</td>
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<td>Telepathology Services</td>
<td>Utilize material in support of clinical care</td>
<td>Support clinical research (TBI initiative, USMCI initiatives, etc)</td>
<td>Offer robust online CME activities in collaboration with USU</td>
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<td>Environmental/Biophysical Toxicology Service</td>
<td>Utilize material in support of education</td>
<td>Utilize the repository material for research in support of DoD and other federal government priorities</td>
<td>Provide Veterinary Pathology Residency for DoD</td>
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<td>A “one-of-a-kind” Veterinary Pathology Consultative Service</td>
<td>Develop and implement strategic plan for the utilization of tissue for federal government research</td>
<td>Veterinary Pathology research</td>
<td>Provide Support to Navy Oral Pathology Residency Program</td>
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<td>Utilize Tissue Cohort Registries for research</td>
<td>Support Live Continuing Medical Education Offerings</td>
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<td>Augment and enhance capabilities through partnership</td>
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World Class Support of the Mission (DOD, VA, HHS, other)
JPC Establishment Update

- Change from prior briefing
  - Start consultative, education, research, repository mission on 01 April 2011
  - AFIP to continue support through Summer 2011
  - Full Operating Capabilities by September 2011
- Office of the Director
  - Established October 2010 (IOC)
- Personnel: 60 people transferred to JPC from AFIP (45 detailed back to AFIP)
Office of the Director

- 15 personnel assigned 01 October 2011
  - IT
  - Quality
  - Administrative
    - Histotechnology
    - Laboratory Manager
- Developing administrative structure
- Developing quality management plan and timeframe for CAP accreditation
- Transferring and purchasing equipment
- Implementing contracts
Office of the Director

Information Technology

- Converting current AFIP laboratory information system (PIMS) to JPIIMS
- Developing JPC website
  - Specimen Accessioning
  - Online consultative reports
  - Education module
- Ensuring connectivity of JPC personnel and information systems
- Obtaining DIACAPS approval
Office of the Director

- Developing budget requirements for FY2012 and beyond
- Strategic Communications
  - Working closely with federal stakeholders to ensure smooth transition of clinical services from AFIP to JPC
  - Article in CAP ‘Statline’
  - Article in ‘CAP Today’
Consultative Service

- Personnel
  - 10 AFIP pathologists transferred to JPC
  - 2 additional pathologists to be transferred (Dec)
  - AD oral pathologist (Nov)
  - 4 pathologists hired
  - Recruitment actions pending for multiple other pathologist positions

- Developing process for specimen accessioning, specimen control, and courier system
Consultative Service

- **Histology**
  - Developing and implementing menu for special stains with focus on quality and TAT

- **Molecular Laboratories**
  - AFIP will continue providing support until renovation of space is completed in August 2011

- **Environmental/Biophysical Toxicology Laboratories**
  - AFIP will continue providing support until function is located in new space
  - Currently looking at several sites as space for this laboratory
Education

- Will use ‘Ask AFIP’ education module as backbone for JPC online education offerings
- CME credit to be provided by USUHS
- Developing MOUs with training programs for resident/fellowship rotations at JPC: to begin July 2011
- Developing MOU with oral pathology residency program for April 2011
- Support of live courses
Research

- Transferring up to 85 active protocols from AFIP
- Comprehensive Cancer Treatment Center initiative at WRNMMC: developing strong alliance for research; pathologist-driven, collaborative, and supportive role
- VA: working with Assistant Chief of Research to identify opportunities for collaboration and support
- Tissue Repository
- Other federal stakeholders
Tissue Repository

- Two phases of study on modernization/utilization
- Contracted with Institute of Medicine to conduct study and make recommendations:
  - Mission and vision of Tissue Repository
  - Who should have access to the Repository Material?
  - What technologies should be considered to modernize and utilize?
  - What business model should the repository use for research?
  - What materials should the Repository store?
  - Recommendations about unique collections in the Repository
Tissue Repository

- IOM deliverable: June 2012
- Second phase of study:
  - Develop process for utilization of material in repository
  - Identify resources needed to fully modernize and utilize repository in support of research
    - Personnel requirements
    - IT requirements
    - Organizational structure to oversee repository utilization
    - Technologies incorporated into Repository
    - Space requirements
Tissue Repository

During study:

- Will continue to use repository for support of clinical mission and for education
- Will continue to support ongoing active protocols
- Will allow access to material in repository for support of new protocols for JPC pathologists on a case-by-case basis
Renovation of space on Forest Glen currently underway
Anticipate assuming function NLT 01Jun2011
AFIP will continue providing service until transfer
Support of Stakeholders

- **Support of Armed Forces Medical Examiner**
  - Critical support of mission
  - Plan worked carefully with Medical Examiner

- **Support of Operations in theater:**
  - Full support of pathology within theater through telepathology and consultation

- **Other Federal Agencies**
  - Major stakeholders
    - Department of Defense
    - Veterans Administration
  - Other Key Federal Stakeholders
    - NIH, CDC, PHS, IHS, FDA
    - Vet Path support of stakeholders
    - Non-medical federal stakeholders
  - Organization allows for sufficient flexibility to address stakeholder current and future needs
Other Federal Agencies

- Formal Survey went to other federal agencies:
  - HHS responded 17Aug2011
    - Indian Health Services:
      - Pathology Consultation
      - Veterinary Pathology Services
      - DU testing and Imbedded Fragment Analysis
      - On-line Education
    - CDC, Division of Blood Disorders
      - Training on Challenges of DVT identification postmortem
    - CDC, Office of Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Studies
      - DU testing and Imbedded Fragment testing
      - Veterinary Pathology Services
      - On-line education
Other Federal Agencies

- CDC, Division of Cancer Prevention and Control
  - Online education
- CDC, Division of Heart Disease and Prevention
  - Online education
- CDC, National Center for Environmental Health
  - DU testing for inter-laboratory comparison on clinical samples

➢ Further discussion and follow-up with other federal agencies needed
Other Federal Agencies

- Extensive Discussions with VA
  - Consultation
  - Quality control process for VA
  - Utilization of Cohort Registries
  - Improved collaboration with ACTUR
  - Opportunities for collaboration and support of research
  - Support of the VA DU Follow-up Program and Toxic Imbedded Fragment Program
  - Online Education
Facilities

- **Consultation**
  - Building 606 on Forest Glen
  - Renovation complete
  - Each pathologist will have private office

- **Tissue Repository**
  - Building 606
  - Building 510 on Forest Glen: undergoing life safety renovation

- **Veterinary Pathology**
  - Building 161 on Forest Glen
  - Renovations to be completed April 2011
Facilities

- **Histology**
  - Walter Reed Bethesda Laboratory
  - New space renovation completed and space is occupied

- **Molecular Laboratories**
  - Building 17a on Bethesda campus
  - Renovation to be completed by August 2011

- **Depleted Uranium/Imbedded Fragment Laboratory**
  - Currently seeking space
Budget

- FY2011 budget
  - 10.6 million dollars
- Working on FY2012 and beyond
Way Forward

- Top priority: ensure **continuity** of clinical services during establishment
- Continue hiring process
- Refine and submit budget requirements for FY2012 and beyond
- Finalize facilities requirements for DU testing
- Refine and finalize Logistical/IT requirements
- Continue with strategic communication plan
- Finalize and validate specimen accessioning process
- Develop Policies and Procedures
- Continue with transfer of pertinent contracts and initiation of new contracts
- Apply for College of American Pathologists Accreditation with goal of full accreditation by September 2011
- Define function and structure of Board of Advisors and implement
- Select Inaugural Director Summer 2011 for appointment after FOC