



Health Care Delivery Subcommittee

Active Duty Women's Health Care Services Report Update

August 7, 2020



Overview

- Membership
- Review Tasking
- Summary of Subcommittee Activities to Date
- Areas of Interest
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Membership



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Tasking (1/2)

On July 29, 2019, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, directed the Defense Health Board ("the Board") to provide recommendations to the DoD **to identify Active Duty (AD) women's health care needs, improve accessibility and quality of health services, and optimize individual medical readiness.**



Tasking (2/2)

The Board should address and develop findings and recommendations on the policies and practices in place to:

- **Determine how the DoD should improve research, quality of care, and access to health services for AD women, while maintaining readiness;**
- **Address psychological and mental health conditions with gender-specific epidemiology;**
- **Evaluate access to reproductive health services, including preventative care, for AD women throughout the deployment cycle; and**
- **Identify best musculoskeletal (MSK) injury prevention practices for AD women.**



Summary of Activities to Date, (1/3)

Report Chapter/Section	Status
Executive Summary	Draft complete
Chapter 1 - Introduction	Draft complete
Chapter 2 – Systems, Programs, and Groups Addressing Active Duty Women’s Health Issues	Adjudicating Subcommittee’s comments
Chapter 3 – Musculoskeletal Injury	Adjudicating Subcommittee’s comments
Chapter 4 – Mental Health	Under review
Chapter 5 – Reproductive, and Urogenital Health	Adjudicating Subcommittee’s comments
Chapter X – Overall Women’s Health, Fitness, and Performance	In development
Emerging Practices and Perspectives	In development



Summary of Activities to Date, (2/3)

Date	Activity
May 20, 2020	3-hour video teleconference, that included: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion on the Guiding Principles• A brief on the "Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on Women's Health/Scaling Best Practices in a Health Care System"
June 17, 2020	2-hour video teleconference, that included: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion on Chapter 3 – Musculoskeletal Injuries
July 8, 2020	2-hour video teleconference, that included: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion on Chapter 2 – Systems, Programs, and Groups Addressing Active Duty Women's Health Issues
July 30, 2020	2-hour video teleconference, that will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion on chapter 5 – Reproductive, Urogynecologic, and Sexual health



Summary of Activities to Date, (3/3)

SMEs briefed the DHB Staff on:

- Musculoskeletal injury prevention activities at Service academies
- Bone stress working group
- Kaiser Permanente's reproductive health system/services
- Reproductive health provider training
- Army's Women's Health Service Line
- Mental health screeners administered within the DoD
- Air Force Lifestyle and Performance Medicine
- Israeli Defense Force – musculoskeletal injury prevention and mental health support
- Tulane Women's Sports Medicine Program



Areas of Interest, (1/2)

Topic	Discussion Points
Military Culture about MSKI Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “No pain, no gain” mantra• De-stigmatizing help-seeking behavior for MSKI reduction• “No man left behind” motto should be the cornerstone of injury recovery
Women’s Health Metrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorporation of Total Force Fitness metrics• Lifecycle outcome metrics - recruitment, retention, and performance• Centralize accountability and standardize definitions and terminology of metrics
Defining/Conceptualizing a Women’s Health Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consolidation and integration of a complicated and fractured governance structure• Determine best practice recommendation supporting accountability, standardization and accelerated improvement



Areas of Interest, (2/2)

Topic	Discussion Points
Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on Women's Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health consequences include unintended pregnancies, MSKIs, TBIs, stress-related symptoms, and mental health conditions• Supportive environments for the provider and patient improves recognition and response
Disseminating Best Practices Throughout Military Health System	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aligning women's health efforts to readiness increases military leadership's valuation of women's health• Successful implementation of best practices requires piloting



Way Ahead

- Video teleconference scheduled for August 27, 2020
- Continued report development with planned decision brief for the Board in November 2020



Questions ?