SDD PMOs Perform Mass COVID-19 Tests with DoD Task Force

The Solution Delivery Division (SDD) Electronic Health Record (EHR) Core Program Management Office (PMO) and the Clinical Support (CS) PMO successfully collaborated with the Department of Defense (DoD) COVID-19 Task Force to implement an easy-to-use, accurate and rapidly scalable Gothams-Curative Oral fluid COVID-19 test at five mass COVID-19 testing events.

“This was yet another example of how SDD members continue to go above and beyond to respond to pandemic relief,” said SDD Chief COL Francisco Dominici.

Rapidly responding to the DoD’s need to expand COVID-19 testing, the team implemented two methods in leveraging the newly acquired Gothams-Curative test, called Plan A and Plan B, according to SDD testing team members.

Plan A, the Composite Health Care System (CHCS)/LabCorp solution, used the native CHCS/AHLTA order entry and laboratory interoperability capabilities already established at Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) to send and receive results to the commercial Curative laboratory locations. Plan B was designed to cover large-scale testing by using the TRICARE Online Patient Portal (TOL PP) mobile web application to send and receive results to Curative laboratory locations before CHCS processing.

COVID-19 testing using the Plan A method was conducted at the U.S. Air Force Academy, CO and Fort Benning, GA on June 8. Testing using Plan B occurred at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA on June 2-5; Naval Base Coronado, CA on June 8; and Peterson Air Force Base, CO on June 11.

The events produced a total of 10,044 COVID-19 test orders. Test results are incorporated into the AHLTA/CHCS EHR and other enterprise databases. Patients can view their expedited test results using TOL PP.

Following the successful testing, the team collaborated with the DoD Task Force lead for the effort to incorporate lessons learned before expanding the capability across the entire Military Health System enterprise.
Our Cover Story is just one example of the innovative work our Solution Delivery Division (SDD) teams have performed in support of the Military Health System (MHS) and its unrelenting battle against COVID-19. I am proud of our many COVID-19 response efforts and the day-to-day impacts those efforts are making as we transform and improve the delivery of care in our Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) around the globe. Every day in MTFs, laboratories, research institutes, and even in headquarters organizations, our work helps to improve the care Department of Defense (DoD) beneficiaries receive. Please remember to do your part to help keep your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers safe. Wash your hands, wear a mask and practice social distancing. We’re all in this together!

I invite you to continue reading this September issue of The BEAT to learn about more of our recent SDD accomplishments. First, in our Feature Story we announce the go-live of the Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support system at the joint James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center. This achievement represents a major step toward unifying and modernizing the health care supply chain where clinicians jointly deliver care to our active duty military, their family members, military retirees and veterans. Next, check out our PMO Spotlight to learn about our Web and Mobile Technology PMO and how they help to deliver the mobile and web technology solutions used across the MHS each day. Next up, in our Branch Spotlight, we showcase our Electronic Health Record Modernization Branch and their efforts to support another partnership, the joint Health Information Exchange. The new nationwide exchange enables all health providers, whether at an MTF or in the TRICARE network, to securely access beneficiary records and health information electronically. These articles are just a few highlights of the customer-focused accomplishments produced by SDD teams in the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2020.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the hard work we do each day in an effort to deliver solutions and services that optimize value for our users and stakeholders. SDD recognizes the ever-evolving nature of the environment we work in and strives to leverage information and technology in a responsive and agile manner that best supports military readiness and other strategic MHS objectives. SDD is dedicated to enhancing health service delivery through exceptional information and technology and honored to serve our 9.6 million DoD beneficiaries.

Leadership Message

COL Francisco Dominicci, Division Chief, SDD

Modernization Branch and their
SDD Helps Launch DMLSS at Joint DoD/VA Health Care Facility

Defense Health Agency Chief Information Officer Pat Flanders, center, and other DHA leaders, are briefed by Lt. Cmdr. Lewis Monroe at USS Red Rover, one of Lovell Federal Health Care Center’s branch medical clinics at Recruit Training Command, Naval Station Great Lakes. The DHA is one of several federal agencies involved in the fielding of a new logistics and supply chain management system - Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support (DMLSS) - at Lovell FHCC. DMLSS will eventually be implemented at all Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities. It already is in use by the Department of Defense. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Caylen J. McCutcheon/Released)

After years of planning, coordination and preparation between Solution Delivery Division (SDD) Medical Logistics Information Technology (MEDLOG IT) Program Management Office (PMO), members of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD), the Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support (DMLSS) system went live at the joint DoD/VA James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC), in North Chicago on Aug. 4.

“This critical milestone is the culmination of years of planning and coordination between MEDLOG IT, the VA and DoD,” said SDD Chief COL Francisco Dominici. “This is a major step in replacing the VA’s supply chain IT infrastructure with DMLSS, establishing a single DoD/VA health care logistics system for acquiring medical and surgical supplies.”

DMLSS is an automated, integrated information system that has provided the Military Health System (MHS) MEDLOG support for more than 20 years. It is deployed to more than 200 Military Treatment Facilities. Its replacement, LogiCole, will transition all MEDLOG applications into a single, web-based application supporting all MHS MEDLOG functions.

The MEDLOG IT PMO devoted years of planning and coordination with DoD and VA medical logistics experts to integrate DMLSS into the VA. The FHCC launch represents the first DMLSS integration into a VA facility. By partnering with the VA, DMLSS and LogiCole will support both the DoD and VA in improving business agility and optimizing existing processes while providing real-time analytics for fast and accurate decision making.

COL Dominicci was one of several Defense Health Agency (DHA) leaders who participated in a special event on Aug. 12 at FHCC to commemorate the DMLSS launch. DHA Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Deputy Assistant Director - Information Operations (DAD IO, J-6) Pat Flanders and John Staley, acting MEDLOG IT PMO program manager, were among other DHA leaders at the event.
The Web and Mobile Technology (WMT) Program Management Office (PMO) was established in September 2017 when a branch of the National Center for Telehealth and Technology transitioned into the Solution Delivery Division and merged with the Web Strategies and Collaboration Branch.

“WMT’s mission is to deliver comprehensive and cohesive mobile and web technology solutions by developing, sustaining and supporting innovative web and mobile based apps and systems,” said LCDR Alistair Mclean, WMT deputy program manager.

The PMO maintains and updates many Defense Health Agency (DHA) websites and collaboration sites, including health.mil, TRICARE.mil and LaunchPad. The PMO also helps DHA customers design custom websites and collaboration sites and provides graphics support and branch templates.

WMT also designs, maintains and updates mobile applications (apps) for DHA and other Department of Defense customers. The PMO maintains more than 16 active health care-related apps available for download. Most of the apps are available for both iPhone and Android mobile devices.

Branch Spotlight: EHR Modernization Supports DoD/VA Joint Health Information Exchange

The Solution Delivery Division (SDD) Electronic Health Record (EHR) Modernization Branch helped facilitate integration of the Department of Defense (DoD) Health Information Exchange (HIE) with Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) HIE to form the new joint Health Information Exchange (joint HIE). The joint HIE securely connects DoD, VA and hundreds more federal and private sector partners with patient health and benefit information data.

“By using the joint HIE, health care providers can have a more complete view of a patient’s health record, with data drawn from a larger group of sources,” said CAPT Mark Clayton, Chief of the EHR Modernization Branch.

For decades, the Military Health System (MHS) operated its own HIE called the eHealth Exchange that shared military health information electronically between providers at Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs), VA facilities and and other federal and private sector partners. The joint HIE enables all health providers, whether at an MTF or in the TRICARE network, to securely access beneficiary records and health information electronically. The joint HIE was established at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and is especially important when health care providers are fighting the virus and need access to a patient’s complete medical record, to help identify pre-existing conditions and make timely treatment decisions.

When fully deployed, the SDD HIE Office anticipates joint HIE will give providers access to medical data from 225 federal and private sector partners representing more than 2,000 hospitals; 33,000 clinics; 1,100 laboratories; 8,800 pharmacies and 300 nursing homes throughout the country.
AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO SDD AWARD WINNERS!

Defense Health Agency J-6 Employee of the 3rd Quarter FY20

Dr. Rebecca Hall was announced as the Defense Health Agency J-6 Employee of the 3rd Quarter for Fiscal Year 2020. She is recognized for her superb performance as Product Manager for the Solution Delivery Division, Health Services Support Program Management Office’s Aeromedical Services Information Management System (ASIMS). Under her leadership the ASIMS team supported the rapid development, rigorous testing and deployment of nine emergent customer-requested changes that provided critical capabilities in support of COVID-19. ASIMS team members assessed, developed, tested and deployed capabilities that tracked 5,300 members on quarters status due to COVID-19 illness or contact. ASIMS also enabled the virtual completion of congressionally required Military Service Separation and physical history tracking for the temporary extension of flyers and special operations flight physical expiration dates.

2020 NAWAR Lightning Bolt Award

The Air Force Medical Service (AFMS) Knowledge Exchange (Kx) Portal GovCloud Migration team, comprised of members from the Solution Delivery Division (SDD) and the Naval Information Warfare Center – Atlantic, won the Naval Warfare Command (NAWAR) Lightning Bolt award. The team won the award for migrating the Defense Health Agency AFMS Kx portal (rebranded post-migration as the Knowledge Exchange CloudPad) to the Amazon Web Services GovCloud.