



The Scoop

A Quarterly Publication of the Military Training Network

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Director's Comments

By John A. Maurer, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army

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MTN would like to congratulate LTC Al Moran on the announcement of his retirement from the U.S. Army effective December 31, 2007. Please join us in wishing Al and his family our thanks for nearly 28 years of military service. LTC Moran will be maintaining an office at MTN during his retirement transition.

As the new Director of MTN please know that I am looking forward to meeting many of you during this new fiscal year. The MTN staff has identified 75 sites that have not been visited in the past three years. A list of some areas we plan to visit is published in this newsletter.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the ECCU 2008 - Emergency Cardiovascular Care Update Conference at Bally's Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. The dates are 12-15 June. MTN welcomes your input on topics you would like to address as we develop the agenda.

A number of you have asked MTN to con-

sider adding PEPP - Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals- to our roster of program offerings. In an attempt to determine the interest in this program, the MTN will be surveying our client base. In the coming weeks you will be asked to respond to 5 or 6 short questions. Please do so as your input and responses are invaluable to us as we attempt to meet your training needs.

I and my entire MTN staff are excited to work with you in FY08. Together we can continue to maintain the highest standards of resuscitative care and trauma medicine. Our service members deserve nothing less than the best care wherever they may find themselves.

All the best to The Best,

John A. Maurer, LTC, USA, MS
Director, Military Training Network
Uniformed Services University

June 12-15, 2008— MARK THE DATE !

Emergency Cardiovascular Care Update Conference 2008

All Program Directors and Administrators are strongly encouraged to join the Military Training Network and the American Heart Association at Bally's Resort and Spa in Las Vegas, Nevada for a time guaranteed to keep the heart beating.



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A Thought on Training

By Iain D. Gould, Ensign, United States Navy

As members of our respective commands are deployed around the world, all of us see increases in workload. This may be due to the demands of the operational environment or due to the fact that there are still just as many appointments being scheduled at your Stateside facility, although there are less staff members onsite. Each of us experiences the added responsibilities differently, but when was the last time you thought about the impact on your resuscitative and trauma medicine programs? How many of your BLS trained coworkers have deployed? How many of those were trained in ACLS and PALS? Although we know that our facilities have the best trained and most motivated individuals in the world, what happens when we are operating at minimum staffing levels because a platform was mobilized?

There is a great way to make those questions redundant. It is through training as many people as possible. This is done through advertising, availability, and command awareness. Take every opportunity you can to train your fellow members in the life saving skills. It may be that Guard helicopter crew chief who saves the life of your battle buddy on the flight line one day.

While on the subject, what are some of

the positive ramifications of increased training? The MTN programs depend on our fellow members to lead classes and those future instructors can be identified and recruited through a positive first training experience. Program Directors and Administrators can also identify and train their replacements before they get that mobilization order that wasn't supposed to come for 9 more months. Your efforts now ensure the legacy of efficiency you have fostered is perpetuated after you depart.

And as a final thought on the issue of training, ask yourself who from your command will be deploying in the next few months. Will their certifications expire while in theater? Although we all realize that it is our responsibility to stay current, that MTN card may slip to the back of our mind while we get ourselves and our families ready for us to deploy. A timely reminder about training may negate the need for our sites in harms way to offer as much training during their hectic days. Make sure your people know when their cards expire and try to help them find training before they leave. This is the most effective use of our limited resources, the most limited of which is time.

Sites to See

The SAV Report

FY08 has started with a flurry of annual reports, post course reports, and new affiliation requests. The MTN has also been on the road visiting sites like yours.

Thus far we have identified the **305th Medical Group** at McGuire AFB in New Jersey, **Patterson Army Health Clinic** at Fort Monmouth in New Jersey, and the **Office of Division Surgeon, 10th Mountain Division** at Fort Drum in New York as sites that exemplify the best practices all of our sites try

to attain. These exemplary sites can be another tool you can use to improve your programs. Ask your program manager to put you in touch with them for some tips. We create excellence collectively.

Your site could be the next. We are scheduling trips to Florida, Texas, and Illinois in the near future. Your program manager will contact you if you are on the list. To those sites who operate at the highest levels we heartily say, "Bravo Zulu".

Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Program

By SSgt Rachel A. Broussard, USAF

The Pediatric Advanced Life Support program is off to a smooth start for FY2008. Most training sites have been compliant in meeting the deadline or making correspondence efforts for extensions. Thanks for your continuing excellence.

PALS has seen a shift in the number of projected courses for FY08. Even with instructor shortages, it is important to schedule enough courses to keep instructors certified. PALS instructors must teach a minimum of four

courses in a two year period to meet the renewal requirements. Also, candidates must teach eight courses before they can be nominated as Training Site Faculty. It is important to create enough TSF candidates in the unit to fill the PD position should it become available with out notice.

Please remember to contact the PALS Program manager via e-mail if a course is cancelled or added to the training calendar.

Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Program

By HM1 Trudy A. Carmichael

It has been a great FY-07 and lets make FY-08 just as great. I want to thank all of the sites that have submitted their FY-07 Annual report and FY-08 Re-Affiliation packages. I have 13 sites that are missing items and I have contacted you and I just need you to submit your missing items. There are still a number of sites that have not submitted packages. This is just a friendly reminder that you can not conduct classes until we have received your re-affiliation packages and processed them. If we have not received your packages we will be contacting the chain of command at your site to ask what is going on. If you have

any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

Also, for all programs, when submitting your post course reports and other items to the MTN you only need to submit it one of 3 ways. You can email it (if you have scanning capabilities), you can fax it, or you can mail it. We have some sites that send it all 3 ways and that is a waste of time and DoD money. If you are worried about it not getting to us you can always send us an email or call to find out if your correspondence has reached us.

Basic Life Support (BLS) Program

By HM1 Joe Monsivais

As we start to close out the Sept 07 Annual Reporting Period, it is evident that the majority of our training sites are encountering similar problems with their BLS Programs which are very noticeable to us at MTN. One of the common problems for sites is a lack of continuity and proper turnovers. Many times we in the military do not have the luxury of identifying our replacements before we deploy or prior to a permanent change of duty stations. This leaves our programs in limbo until the next member takes over. These motivated individuals are then handicapped since they start from scratch and have to learn and familiarize themselves with the process without the mentoring of their

predecessor. So, communication is of utmost importance, both within your site and with your program managers at the MTN. It is imperative that you keep MTN abreast of any updates or personnel changes that take place in order to keep your programs in good standing. Together we can easily avoid those problems that compromise the effectiveness of the MTN to administer the mission critical programs that foster patient safety. Remember, we are only a phone call or email away and are standing by ready to assist in keeping your programs running smoothly.



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The Military Training Network is the premier source of resuscitative and trauma medicine training programs for the DoD.

The Department of Defense Health Council established the MTN in 1982 to provide training, registration, coordination and centralized record keeping for resuscitative and trauma medicine training programs. The administrative staff is organized under the Office of Continuing Education for Health Professionals at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

Programs include:

- Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- Basic Life Support (BLS)

Information Technology Update

By SSgt Katina James

The MTN is debuting a new tool that promises to increase efficiency for the members of our network, allowing you to focus more time on your daily operations and less on onerous paperwork. It will also allow your program managers to process your requests more rapidly, facilitating continued access to care for our service members and dependents.

The Corporate Database - Military Training Network (MTN) application is the first fully integrated software that automates the existing paper-base processes and consolidates various individual databases into a central structure. The MTN application supports the business processes of receiving and processing requests via automation to improve service, enhance data collection, and retrieval. The new MTN application provides a user-friendly online web interface for the MTN department and affiliates world-wide.

The system automates course and instructor requests, provides approvals and greatly enhances report generation. For example, MTN training sites can electronically submit:

- Affiliation/Reaffiliation forms to MTN with training to be conducted
- Nominations for Program Administrators, Program Directors and TSF Nominations

- Post Course Reports
- Annual Reports: summary reports on annual training activities

In addition, MTN can view all submitted site reports, approve/disapprove those reports, track progress, delete user accounts, manage site pin and maintain site lists, all online. Although regulations require MTN to maintain designated paperwork in hard copy format, the amount of paper used to track affiliate information will be greatly reduced with the inception of an enterprise database.

This database has already been tested at some sites and is poised for a system wide rollout. With your support, this tool will become a great asset to all of us. If you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

REMINDER: Don't forget that ACLS/PALS Post-Course Reports are due within 30 days of course completion!

