

KADENA SHOGUN WEEKLY NEWS



AMURAI GATE

The Time Is Always Right to Do What Is Right

Martin Luther King Jr. Jan 15, 1929 - Apr 4, 1968

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U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan, earns two DoD awards



(U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jason W. Edwards)

Major (Dr.) Angela Fagiana is the medical director of the U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa's neonatal intensive care unit. The NICU was recently recognized in the 2015 Department of Defense Quality and Patient Safety Awards. Fagiana's efforts in the prevention of hypothermia in preterm newborns was integral to winning the award and reduced preterm hypothermia patients by approximately 25 percent.

By Joseph Andes
U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan
Airman 1st Class Nicholas Emerick

18th Wing Public Affairs

1/13/2016 — United States Naval Hospital Okinawa (USNHO), Japan was recently recognized in the 2015 Department of Defense Quality and Patient Safety Awards. The program recognizes efforts designed to decrease harm and improve the care delivered within the military health system.

Two program submissions from USNHO, "Prevention of Hypothermia in Preterm Newborn" and "Reduction of Not-In-Stock Medication Levels", were selected as winning entries.

According to Lieutenant James Neipp (USN), USNHO's head of Pharmacy Services and the project lead for "Reduction of Not-In-Stock Medication Levels", the aim of the project was to provide the highest level of care to the patient.

"Not having one medication available can affect the care of more than twenty patients," said Neipp. "So by having these medications readily available, we are able to meet the patient needs as well as reduce any increased costs from having to change to more expensive alternative therapies."

The pharmacy department's project began life as a Lean Six Sigma project to reduce the number of medications

"not-in-stock" (NIS) for patient care. Not having adequate medications to treat inpatient and outpatient persons can lead to adverse events, cancelled procedures, delayed care, increased facility cost, and ultimately, increased frustrations for patients and providers. Another aim was to make the medication ordering system as cost-efficient as possible.

"With the process improvements in place, the pharmacy supply team has been able to achieve the project goal of an average of less than 20 NIS items per month and thus meet our patient needs" said Neipp.

As pharmaceutical expenditures make up a significant

SEE USNHO PAGE 2



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class William McCann)

Lieutenant James Neipp and the Pharmacy Department of U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan took home a DoD Quality and Patient Safety Award for the project "Reduction of Not-In-Stock Medication Levels." The efforts of Neipp and his team resulted in a potential annual cost savings of more than \$500,000 for USNHO.

Kadena members observe MLK day



(U.S. Air Force photo by Naoto Anazawa)

Guest speaker, U.S. Army 1st Sgt. Oranjel Leavy, Headquarters and Support Company 1st Sgt, talks about Dr. King's stance on human rights and his inspiration to attendees at the Kadena Officers' Club, Jan. 12, at Kadena Air Base.

44th AMU crew chiefs keep F-15s flying



(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Lynette M. Rolan)

Airman 1st Class Joseph Villani, 18th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 44th Aircraft Maintenance Unit assisted dedicated crew chief, examines an F-15 Eagle's circuit breaker system Jan. 8, at Kadena Air Base. The slightest short in the system can cause damage to other aircraft components. It is with the work of the maintainers that this can be prevented and premier counter air control can be continued.

Air Force 101: Talks aim to improve legislation for AF missions

By Sean Kimmons

Air Force News Service

1/12/2016 - WASHINGTON — A day after the Air Force flew a B-52 Stratofortress over South Korea in the wake of their northern neighbor's nuclear bomb test, Air Force officers discussed the service's nuclear capabilities with policymakers Jan. 11.

The hour-long discussion, part of an ongoing series, touched on North Korea's Jan. 6 test and why the Air Force responded with a show of force. It also delved further into the U.S. military's triad system, which deters a nuclear attack using strategic bombers, missile silos and submarines.

Organized by the Air Force Legislative Liaison Office at the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill, the Air Force 101 sessions inform policymakers on various topics.

"We don't write policy. That's not our job," said Maj. Justin Ballinger, a legislative liaison. "What we do is educate how the policy and legislation affects us, and what we can do with what is given to us."

The bi-monthly sessions cover "airpower from the ground up" and hot topics such as a briefing on cyber security that had officers talk about policies related to Air Force missions.

SEE AF101 PAGE 2



A B-52 Stratofortress from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, conducted a low-level flight in the vicinity of Osan Air Base, South Korea, in response to recent provocative action by North Korea Jan. 10.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)