



NAVY MEDICINE **FAST FACTS**

June 2023

MISSION

Navy Medicine delivers expeditionary medical care to the Fleet, Marine Corps, and Joint Force when and where the fight demands while always taking care of Sailors and Marines wherever they serve.

NAVY MEDICINE EXMEDS: OUR PLATFORMS TO THE NORTH STAR

EXPEDITIONARY MEDICAL PLATFORMS (EXMEDS): medical capabilities to support distributed maritime operations.



Expeditionary Medical Facility (EMF)

The EMF is Navy Medicine's Role 3 ashore capability. The EMF receives patients from forward medical facilities or directly from combat areas in order to provide full resuscitation and emergency stabilizing surgery within the prescribed evacuation policy throughout the range of military operations. The EMF consists of health services, construction and support personnel, as well as deployable medical system equipment, materials and consumables configured to provide up to Role 3 theater hospitalization capabilities.

Theater Hospital Ships (TAH)

The TAH is Navy Medicine's Role 3 afloat capability. There are two TAH ships in inventory: USNS Mercy (T-AH19) and USNS Comfort (T-AH 20). Each ship provides afloat, mobile, acute surgical medical facilities required to deliver complex combat casualty care.

Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF)

EPFs are high-speed, shallow draft vessels embarkable with a Role 2 Enhanced medical package. The first EPF Flight II, the future USNS CODY (T-EPF-14), was christened February 25, 2023.

Expeditionary Medical Unit (EMU)

EMUs are flexible medical units designed to provide Role 2 enhanced medical care afloat (aboard EPFs) and ashore.

Expeditionary Resuscitative Surgical System (ERSS)

The ERSS is Navy Medicine's Role 2 light maneuver capability. These seven-person trauma and surgery mobile teams are designed to provide close to the point-of-injury support, afloat, undersea or ashore during combat or contingency operations with minimal personnel and portable equipment.

En Route Care System (ERCS)

The ERCS are 2-person teams that serve in conjunction with ERSS as the critical connectors between platforms and roles of care.

Forward Deployable Preventive Medicine Unit (FDPMU)

Provides force health protection by rapidly assessing, preventing, predicting, and controlling health threats in a theater of operations and enhancing the capabilities of organic preventive medicine assets to support Sailors, Marines, and Joint warfighters.

Bethesda Class Expeditionary Medical Ship (EMS)

Purpose-designed Expeditionary Medical Ship (EMS) – in development. An adaptation of the EPF hull envisioned to offer Role 2 Enhanced capabilities.



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SECNAV ANNOUNCES THE BETHESDA CLASS OF SHIP

On May 12, 2023, Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Carlos Del Toro announced USNS Bethesda (EMS 1) as the name for the lead ship in the new Expeditionary Medical Ship (EMS(X)). EMS(X) will now be referred to as the Bethesda Class Expeditionary Medical Ship. The future USNS Bethesda will be one of three Expeditionary Medical Ships.

USNS BETHESDA:

Capabilities:

- Role 2 Enhanced Medical Transport capabilities with the ability to provide diagnostic, specialist and hospital care for stabilizing and preparing patients for strategic evacuation.
- Shallow draft hullform that will ensure access to shallow ports.

Capacity:

- Accommodation for about 28 crewmembers and 50 medical personnel.
- Three operating rooms, six intensive care bed, 12 recovery beds, 20 intermediate care beds, 30 light care beds, and seating for 170.
- One or two V-22 landing platforms and platforms for transferring patients from watercraft.



SHIP NAMESAKE:

Bethesda was the home of the National Naval Medical Center from 1942 to 2011 and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center from 2011 to the present.

While looking for a new home of the Naval Medical Center Washington, D.C., President Franklin Roosevelt along with a team that included the Surgeon General of the Navy visited over 200 sites in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia before settling on Bethesda.

In Bethesda, the team came across a rural tract of land consisting of rolling fields with areas of dense woods. The land fronted Rockville Pike for 2,300 feet to the west and backed Rock Creek Parkway to the east. The site also offered potential for future expansion. Another feature that attracted Roosevelt was an existing spring and spring house located in the gully between the main farm house on the property and the adjacent Rockville Pike. According to one source, the pool and tiny stream reminded the president of the biblical spring of Bethesda in Jerusalem. The legend has it that at a certain season an angel came down to the "troubled waters" of the spring. The first person who entered the spring would then be healed."

"Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout all the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of equity and faith." - Franklin D. Roosevelt, Bethesda Dedication, 31 August 1942

HOSPITAL CORPS - 125th ANNIVERSARY



Established 17 June 1898

- Understanding the necessity of having a skilled and medically trained enlisted corps, Congress passed a bill authorizing the formal establishment of the U.S. Navy Hospital Corps, which was signed into law by President William McKinley on 17 June 1898.
- As the largest and most decorated rating in the Navy, members of the Hospital Corps have earned **22** Medals of Honor, **199** Navy Crosses, **959** Silver Stars and more than **1,600** Bronze Stars. Twenty-two ships have been named in honor of Navy Hospital Corps personnel, including the newly named destroyers USS Charette and USS Kilmer.
- Today, the Hospital Corps is comprised of **27,000+** active-duty and Reserve women and men representing **40** individual Naval Enlisted Codes.

FIRST AMERICAN PHYSICIAN IN SPACE:

- 50 years ago NASA launched Skylab II into space. The 3-person crew included Navy flight surgeon CAPT Joseph Kerwin who earned the distinction as the first American physician in space. Learn more about CAPT Kerwin's feat and Navy Medicine's astronauts here:

<https://dvidshub.net/r/knd8p8>