Joining Forces:
Military Medicine Part 2
Mini-Elective
Spring 2017

Course Dates: January 27, February 3, 10, 17, 24
Fridays, 1:30-3:30 PM

Maximum Students: 15

Class Year: MS1 and MS2

Course Director: Jo-Anne Suffoletto, MD, MSc
Associate Chief of Staff for Education and
Innovative Learning
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System
Assistant Professor of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh SOM
Ron Poropatich, MD
Executive Director, Center for Military
Medicine Research
University of Pittsburgh SOM

Contact Information: Jo-Anne Suffoletto, MD, MSc
Joanne.suffoletto@va.gov

Registration: Betsy Nero, Office of Medical Education
betsy@medschool.pitt.edu

Description:
There is no pre-requisite for students to take the Part 1 Military Medicine mini-elective prior to taking this separate course as we explore a distinctly different set of veteran care topics in this mini-elective. This five-session mini-elective is designed to give medical students a fundamental understanding of the unique characteristics and care considerations involved in taking care of the U.S. veteran population. This course is interactive with varied session formats including: short lectures, panel discussions, and field trips.

Course Objectives:
By the end of the mini-elective, students will be able to:
- Describe the opportunities and challenges that arise in telemedicine care delivery.
- Describe VA and community-based resources that can be leveraged to help homeless veterans.
- Identify best practices for collaborative care across hospital systems.
- List unique care considerations of the female veteran population.
- Describe ways in which research in the Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL) has led to innovations in the field of prosthetics, rehabilitation and mobility.

Requirements:
Active participation and attendance at 4 of the 5 sessions.

Pre-Requisites:
None—There is no pre-requisite to have taken the Military Medicine Part 1 to participate in this course.
COURSE OUTLINE

Name of Course
Joining Forces: Military Medicine (Part 2)

Course Director(s):

Jo-Anne Suffoletto, MD, MSc
Associate Chief of Staff for Education and Innovative Learning
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System
Joanne.suffoletto@va.gov

Ron Poropatich, MD
Executive Director, Center for Military Medicine Research, Health Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Texts: none

Location: See locations below

Session 1: Telemedicine
Patrick Strollo, MD, Bill Leyva, MD, and Ron Poropatich, MD
Location: VA Learning Exchange

With the U.S. veteran population numbering greater than 22 million and many veterans living in rural areas telemedicine has emerged as a key tool for subspecialist providers to interact with patients and generalist providers who may otherwise be unable to benefit from their subspecialty expertise. During this session, we will discuss the unique opportunities and challenges of telemedicine encounters for providers in both the active duty and VA settings.

Week 2: Care of Homeless Veterans
Lauren Broyles, CRNP and TBD
Location: VA Pittsburgh

The number of homeless veterans in the U.S. was estimated at 49,953 in January 2014. This represents a decline by 33% from 2010 to 2014 due to national efforts to deal with this issue. During this session, we will explore the viewpoints of homeless veterans interacting with the medical system. We will also learn about VA and community-based resources that can be leveraged to help our homeless veterans.

Week 3: Coordination of Care – Partnership between VA and non-VA providers
Erika Hoffman, MD
Location: TBD

Many veterans seek care from both VA and non-VA based medical providers. During this session, we will discuss the opportunities and challenges this creates for both veterans and providers across health care systems. We will also discuss best practices for health care collaboration.

Week 4: Women’s Health
Melissa McNeil, MD, MPH
Location: TBD

With 1 in 5 new military recruits being female, women veterans comprise the fastest growing demographic of patients within the VA system. During this session we will explore the unique characteristics of this population that providers should take into consideration when treating women veterans.

~continued
Week 5: Innovations in Prosthetics and Mobility
Brad Dicianno, MD and Human Engineering Research Laboratories
Location: Bakery Square

The Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL) are a very successful research collaboration between VA and the University of Pittsburgh SOM. During this session, we will visit the HERL at Bakery Square and learn how their cutting-edge research has led to innovations in prosthetics and mobility over the years.

Course Requirements: Active participation and attendance at 4 of the 5 sessions.