Military Medical Care

Jeannette E. South-Paul, MD
University of Pittsburgh
Department of Family Medicine
November 11, 2009

SEC. 734

“Develop a fully integrated program on disease and chronic care management for the military health care system that provides uniform policies and practices on disease management and chronic care management throughout that system…”

• Meet nationally recognized accreditation standards
  – Disease Management Association of America Components
    (e.g. population identification processes and evidence-based
    practice guidelines)

• Specify outcome measures and objectives
  – Capture and report data across the services AND the
    purchased care arenas in order to provide the Congress
    comprehensive DM reports

• Include strategies for all beneficiaries including Medicare

• Conform to HIPAA laws and regulations

Source: NDAA 2007 Section 734 (c)
DoD Health Care - Combining Military-Unique Programs, Public Health Functions and Health Plan Best Practices

- Responsibility for
  - Comprehensive portfolio of health programs to support the national defense strategy and
  - To improve the health of military communities.
DoD Health Care - Combining Military-Unique Programs, Public Health Functions and Health Plan Best Practices

- Diverse programs ranging from
  - Traditional health care services (hospitals and clinics)
  - Environmental health
  - Disease surveillance in remote locations
  - Health protection and health promotion
  - Treatment and rehabilitative services
  - Assessing and monitoring health status
Military Health Care System

Strives daily to simultaneously accomplish five interconnected goals:

• A fit, healthy and protected force
• Reduced death, injuries and diseases during military operations
• Utmost satisfaction of beneficiaries
• Creation of healthy communities
• Effective management of health care costs
MEDCOM MTFs and CBHCOs

Puerto Rico

CBHCO Locations

Hybrid CBHCOs*

* AK, HI and PR to run CBHCO-like operations from local garrisons & MTFs
Disparities...what happens when things are not equal
Health Disparities in the US

- Have existed for decades
- Occur across the lifespan
- Encompass physical and behavioral health
- Involve a variety of clinical and scientific disciplines
- Demands cultural proficiency to manage
- Will need a diverse and well trained workforce to make changes
- Require focused efforts to address effectively
The Geography of Destitution

The country is crisscrossed by poverty belts, each defined by distinct ethnic groups. Blacks populate the Deep South, and whites dominate Appalachia.

- Highest rate in juvenile detention: 5 per 1,000
- Largest teen birthrate (age 15-19): 6.5%
- Biggest unemployment rate: 7%
- Lowest median household income: $31,504
- Biggest percentage under 26 with less than a ninth-grade education: 12%
- Highest infant-mortality rate (tied w/Miss.): 10.3 per 1,000
- Largest percentage of children in poverty: 30%
- Highest proportion of kids without home computers: 55%

Newsweek, September 19, 2005
Military Health Care

- Goal of standardizing care for service members and families
- Eliminating disparities within the force – Henley and Kugler’s work
- Partnering with civilian clinicians when needed
- Taking the lead on military medicine – not just medicine in the military
“It takes leadership and it takes a change in the culture of war.”
Sen Patty Murray (D, WA)
“Behind an able man (woman) there are always other able men (women).”

Chinese Proverb
USU

- A worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for military and public health professions education and research.
- Unique programs related directly to force health protection, tropical diseases, disaster medicine, military and public health medical readiness and adaptation to extreme environments.
- Commitment to preparing outstanding scientists and health care practitioners for careers in service to the nation
Teams

- Involve more people, thus affording more resources, ideas, and energy than would an individual.
- Maximize a leader’s potential and minimize her weaknesses. Strengths and weaknesses are more exposed in individuals.
- Provide multiple perspectives on how to meet a need or reach a goal, thus devising several alternatives for each situation.

Teams

• Share the credit for victories and the blame for losses. This fosters genuine humility and authentic community.

• Keep leaders accountable for the goal.

• Can simply do more than an individual.

How to Invest in Your Team

- Make the decision to build a team – this starts the investment in the team
- Gather the best team possible – this elevates the potential of the team
- Pay the price to develop the team – this ensures the growth of the team
- Do things together as a team – this provides community for the team

How to Invest in Your Team

• Empower team members with responsibility and authority – this raises up leaders for the team

• Give credit for success to the team – this lifts the morale of the team

• Watch to see that the investment in the team is paying off – this brings accountability to the team

Everything rises and fall on leadership
No executive has ever suffered because his people were strong and effective!

Peter Drucker
Great leaders seek out and find potential leaders, then transform them into good leaders.
How are Your Values Seen?

• “In the context of organizational and professional culture, values are embedded in the strategies and tactics through which the job gets done. When there is a contradiction between the stated values and the behaviors, we believe the behaviors. Values lead to management style and leadership preferences.”

Military Health Care –
Is About Family