

# Medical

## Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Safe, Humane, Legal, Transparent



**The Joint Medical Group (JMG) conducts humane care of detainees. Equivalent healthcare is provided to detainees and Joint Task Force Troopers.**

The medical care provided to detainees at Guantanamo is on the same level as U.S. service members receive. JMG providers are on-call to provide care to all detainees regardless of disciplinary status, level of cooperation or legal status. The JMG operations are completely independent of Joint Detention Group and Joint Intelligence Group operations.

Detainees are treated at a dedicated medical facility with state-of-the-art equipment and an expert medical staff. The medical facility is equipped with 17 inpatient beds (expandable to 30), a physical-therapy area, pharmacy, radiology department, optometry exam area, dental treatment area, central sterilization area and an operating room. Most routine medical care is administered by Navy corpsmen who visit each cellblock daily and upon the request of any detainee for care. In addition to providing routine medical care, the hospital staff has treated detainees for wounds sustained prior to detention and other pre-existing medical conditions (often unknown to the detainees before their medical treatment at Guantanamo). More serious medical conditions can be treated at the Naval Base Hospital. Additional specialists are available to provide care at Guantanamo for any medical needs that exceed the capabilities of the Naval Base Hospital.

In addition to the detention hospital, there is a separate facility for dedicated mental health care. The medical staff conducts approximately 7,800 visits annually, including preventive mental health screenings. Mental health care also is available for detainees who request it.

Detainees at GTMO have received immunizations, which most would not have had available to them in their home countries. Some detainees have been provided life-changing care such as receiving prosthetic limbs or having cataracts removed.

- Medical services are available to detainees 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- All medical services are provided only with the consent of the detainee, with few exceptions
- Detainee/healthcare ratio: 1 medical staff for every 2 detainees; 1 licensed provider for approximately 57 detainees (compare to U.S. national average of 1 primary care provider for every 390 citizens or in Afghanistan 1:5,300)
- Medications dispensed annually: 155,000
- Sick call visits annually: 3,500
- Provider appointments/visits annually: 1,400
- Vaccinations provided annually: 390
- Tuberculosis (TB) screening conducted via Quantiferon testing – the most accurate TB testing method available
- Age-appropriate colon cancer screening: 25 colonoscopies
- Annual dental procedures: 400 (to include cleanings, fillings, root canals and oral surgeries)
- Annual eye examinations: approximately 35
- Annual physical therapy consults: 125
- Behavioral health services: Less than 8% of detainees have an active diagnosis of a psychiatric illness. Inpatient and outpatient care available.
- Prosthetic devices: Issued to eight detainees, visits by the prosthetist quarterly
- Available specialty care: cardiology, ENT, gastroenterology, neurology, radiology, urology, dermatology.

