



January 23, 2015

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COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

Team Lajes,

Many families who are PCSing to and from overseas locations often carry larger amounts of luggage. Is there any way families can have two adjoining rooms in lodging to accommodate the luggage and

family members without receiving additional fees?

Our FSS team looked into the issue and acknowledges that many families, when PCSing to and from overseas, have a large amount of luggage. Lodging does offer two adjoining rooms, one as a living space and the other to accommodate luggage. FSS has assured that families will not acquire additional fees because of the added room.

65th Med Group earns accreditation, passes inspection

By Staff Sgt. Zachary Wolf
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The 65th Medical Group, although small and undermanned, had two recent accomplishments that ensure its beneficiaries are getting quality care. They received a three-year accreditation from the U.S. Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. and passed a "no-notice" inspection from the College of American Pathologist. All the clinics and the hospitals in the Air Force go through the health care accreditation to measure the performance of care and promote safety and quality.

"It's a standard of care that the Air Force wants to show to its patients and we want to make sure that our levels of care meet those and national standards," said Ricky Baptista, 65th MDG director of quality. Checklists were sent out to section heads and then a team inspected how they thought the AAAHC inspectors might inspect them.

"We gave them an opportunity to show themselves off," Baptista said. "We gave them an opportunity to show us how they are successful at doing what they do."

Some of that success and professionalism takes place when Airmen step up to fill roles that their undermanned group doesn't have the personnel for. One example is where non-commissioned officers are running programs that normally a company-grade officer would run. "Truly every single member of the team directly or indirectly pro-

vided to this accreditation," Baptista said.

Capt. Jamie Williamson, 65th Medical Support Squadron chief of diagnostics and therapeutics, and her team completed self-inspections evaluating all their practices against customized checklists provided by the CAP. Additionally, the medical director, out of Lakenheath, came and performed a staff assisted visit.

"One of the greatest challenges at any small location is the high turn-over in personnel expertise," Williamson said. "Shorter tour lengths drive lower continuity and higher frequency of deficiencies in standards of practice. In addition, a credentialed pathologist is a CAP requirement and most small facilities do not have a pathologist on staff, so to ensure compliance with accreditation standards, small facilities are then required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with a Pathologist from a facility within their region. Such is the case here at Lajes with our medical director being stationed out of Lakenheath."

If they had not passed, the laboratory would have been closed down. Not only did they pass, but according to the inspector they did very well.

"We were held accountable against 494 standards of practice and received zero discrepancies," Williamson said. "The inspector lauded, 'This lab is in the top five percent of all labs I've inspected,' which he has personally inspected over 40 in his career."

Biomedical Sciences Corps 50th Anniversary

By: Lt. Col. David A. Eisenach
JBSA-Lackland, Texas

The Air Force recognizes the achievements of the men and women who comprise the Biomedical Sciences Corps (BSC) by designating 26 - 30 January, 2015, as BSC Appreciation Week. This year is noteworthy as it marks the 50th Anniversary of the Biomedical Sciences Corps. The BSC's roots date back to 1917, when the

Sanitary Corps was established to combat infectious diseases. The Army Medical Administrative Corps followed three years later. In 1949, the Air Force Medical Service was officially established. The Air Force Medical Service continued to expand over the next two decades and in 1965, the Biomedical Sciences Corps was born. Over the past 50 years, the BSC continued to expand its range of personnel to include a wide variety of

medically-trained professionals.

To date, the BSC's mission is to enhance Air Force combat capability and effectiveness by providing world-class customer service and scientific expertise, resulting in peak force performance, productivity, and quality healthcare to our beneficiary population. Comprised of 15 primary specialty codes,

For more on "Biomedical" see page 2



Tech. Sgt. Ninfa McKnight, 65th Medical Group, bioenvironmental non-commissioned officer in charge, drops a solution into a vial of water, Jan. 22, 2014. The solution helps to measure the pH of the water sample. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Zachary Wolf)



Members of the 65th ABW participate in a Martin Luther King remembrance march on January 16, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo/Technical Sgt. Bradley Church)

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the BSC is the most diverse corps in the Air Force Medical Service. Capitalizing on their breadth of expertise, the BSC motto is: United in the Mission.

With 2,400 officers, supported by 5,800 enlisted members in parallel career fields, BSC members can be found at 81 locations around the world and also in multiple settings. The BSC encompasses physical therapy, optometry, podiatry, physician assistants, audiology, speech pathology, clinical

psychology, clinical social work, occupational therapy, aerospace and operational physiology, dietetics, bioenvironmental engineers, public health, medical entomology, pharmacy, biomedical laboratory, healthcare facilities architects/engineers and health & medical physics. In addition to specialty roles within our medical treatment facilities, BSC officers are embedded within operational units, serve at every level of medical command, and lead on staffs of the MAJCOMs, Forward Operating Agencies, and Headquarters Air Force. Additionally,

the Biomedical Sciences Corps is heavily invested in research and a host of other vital roles to meet the demands of the Air Force mission.

Please join the Air Force in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Biomedical Sciences Corps and recognizing the contributions of these outstanding men and women who dedicate their lives to improving health, maximizing performance, and providing trusted medical care to support our most vital resource, our Airmen.

Base Announcements

Eagle Eyes
GTC Payment Options
Expanded Influenza Vaccine Available
New housing website
All members PCS'ing from Lajes Field with Privately Owned Vehicle (POV)

TMO Information
Civilian Personnel Newsletter
Non-command sponsored dependents memorandum
BAH Revalidation Required for All Airmen
65th Medical Group Closed for Training 2nd Tuesday of Each Month
Holocaust Remembrance Day Project Officer Wanted

[Click to read for more Base Announcements](#)

Community Events

Annual Awards Ceremony January 24
Lajes School Family Thursday January 29
No School: January 23 and 30
School Advisory Council Meeting January 28
Parent Forum January 30
Wing Promotion Ceremony January 30
Black History Month Breakfast 4 February

[Click to read for more Community Events](#)

Island Events

Local Volleyball Games
Movie Schedule (Praia & Angra)

[Click to read for more Island Events](#)

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