MHS GENESIS FAQs for NOAA Commissioned Officers (6/2/2023)

What is MHS GENESIS?

MHS GENESIS is a new electronic health record (EHR) system being deployed to military hospitals and clinics around the world. The MHS GENESIS system is the centerpiece of a larger transformation to securely standardize, integrate and manage medical records across the Department of Defense (DOD), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and other federal agencies that provide medical care. NOAA's Office of Health Services (OHS), which is housed within the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) and staffed by U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps officers, has adopted this system to provide more seamless care for NOAA Corps officers by connecting to all military treatment facilities (MTFs). The system will also enhance the secure handling and storage of health records within NOAA operations.

Who at NOAA will be managing MHS GENESIS?

USPHS officers providing health care and evaluating readiness across OMAO will manage the use of MHS GENESIS.

What does the implementation of MHS GENESIS at NOAA mean to me?

Outside of OHS, the implementation of MHS GENESIS will not be noticeable at first. Once fully deployed at NOAA, MHS GENESIS brings a health record management system that is more accessible, faster, and more secure, to assist in the management of medical readiness for NOAA Corps officers and operational staff.

When will the switch-over to MHS GENESIS happen?

The switch-over will happen June 3, 2023. No action is needed from NOAA Corps Officers.

What are the differences, if any, on how the information will be used from how it is currently used?

The way that OHS uses health information will not change. Essentially, the change will be how OHS will store the information and make it accessible to OHS health providers. Previously, much of that information would have to be faxed, emailed securely, or hand carried. Specifically, we are transitioning from numerous disparate IT arrangements to a centralized <u>Health</u> Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliant system.

Does the implementation of MHS GENESIS change how I or my dependents receive care?

There will be no noticeable change in care and interactions for NOAA Corps Officers and their dependents.

What about my medical records captured up until now?

Historical medical records generated by care within an MTF will be imported into MHS GENESIS. For all other record types, a process will be forthcoming from the Commissioned Personnel Center (CPC) in the near future that will detail how this will be addressed.

What should I do with my paper medical records?

CPC will be announcing a process in the near future that will address personal medical records and medical records obtained outside an MTF.

For now, please retain any medical records you have until NOAA has completed its implementation of MHS GENESIS, and continue to upload your medical documentation to your OPF as before.

It is highly recommended that officers continue to keep personal copies of all of their medical records when an officer is on or transitioning to TRICARE Prime Remote.

Per NOAA Corps Directive, Chapter 03 - Health and Medical Care, (Part 1, Section 03101, A.) officers must continue to notify CPC regarding "...any new health condition as soon as the officer becomes aware or is advised of a new health condition." Officers should continue to use noaacorps.medical@noaa.gov to make this notification.

How does this new electronic health records system help keep my information even more secure?

With a centralized EHR there is no risk of a lost hard drive or paper file since there are added layers of protected information safeguards. The EHR is cloud-based and meets DOD cybersecurity requirements. Therefore, no data is stored locally and there are regular cyber security assessments to improve the overall cyber posture of MHS GENESIS.