

Army MEPRS Program Office Newsletter

Bacon's Bits

December 4, 2013

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It is with both sadness and excitement that I write my last Bacon's Bits. I can't believe how the years have flown by. I started my MEPRS career at Ft Sill back in the early 80's and had the pleasure of meeting a lot of you when I moved to MEDCOM back in 1986 to implement UCAPERS. It's been quite a journey and I have shared a special bond with a lot of you. I am very grateful for everyone's support, and the encouragement you all have given to me. People have asked me why did I stay so long in MEPRS and I tell them it's because of you guys out in the field and my staff that share the same drive, determination, pride and belief in a system that I have. I will definitely miss you guys. I still have 27 working (and I use that word lightly) days left before I actually retire; however, for those of you who are also considering retirement, I highly recommend you read "How to Retire Happy, Wild and Free by Ernie J. Zelinski". The book offers inspirational advice on how to enjoy life to its fullest, of which, I intend to do! With the holidays just around the corner, I wanted to share this poem with you by

Joanna Fuchs

The Holidays season fills our hearts with joy;

Bright, happy days bring special kinds of pleasure.

We're wrapped in the excitement of it all,

The sights, the sounds, the smells, the tastes we treasure.

Yet when we have some quiet time to think

About our finest blessings all year through,

We focus on our family and our friends,

And appreciate the gift of knowing you!

Happy Holidays everyone and have a great month. Take time out of your busy days to enjoy life.

Have a great month!



BEST-OF-THE-BEST Data Reporting Month of September 2013

Army Medical Treatment Facilities (MTF) MEPRS Office personnel are known for their dedication and meticulous performance of their duties. This is evident when reviewing the compliance with requirements placed on them from within their commands along with those imposed by MEDCOM.

MTF Ranking is based on point values assessed for compliance with current FY EAS Timeliness, Defense Medical Human Resource System internet (DMHRSi) Timecard Compliance, Financial Reconciliation submission, Narrative submission, Discrepancies for FY08-FY13 (AMPO Discrepancies, and Unauthorized FTE's), and un-validated discrepancies on the Advice and Assist Reports generated as a result of MEWACS data population. Contact your AMPO analyst for additional details on the ranking methodology.

MEDCEN:

DARNALL ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
DIANE PAPKE & STAFF

EXCEPTIONAL EFFORTS!

BEDDED:

WINN ARMY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
MEPRS STAFF

CONGRATULATIONS!

UNBEDDED:

LYSTER ARMY HEALTH CLINIC
KATHY KELLEY & STAFF

AWESOME JOB!

FY14 MTF RANKING-TIMECARD COMPLIANCE

The MTF Ranking has evolved to include the Timecard Compliance at the time EAS data is transmitted to the EAS data repository. The month of September 2013 was the first month in which this was used as a metric, no longer a tie-breaker. A few MTFs failed to provide the required report and received no credit for timecard compliance at time of transmission; this resulted in a loss of 100 points from their total score. This is equivalent to a 11.16% drop in their possible score. This rule will continue in FY14, failure to provide the DoD Batch and Timecard Status Report in the required format on the day the EAS data is transmitted will result in zero credit for this measure. Guidance on this new requirement, with instructions for formatting in the required format, was distributed on 9 Oct 2013 via e-mail titled "Change in MTF Ranking".

DMHRSi LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR FY14

In the past, guidance has been to change source-fed organizations and/or groups to locally established (vs TDA organizations) for certain scenarios (i.e. some types of students). Since DMHRSi has moved to the new data loader (Informatica), we are tying DMHRSi more closely to the source-fed data and no longer need the majority of the local organizations. We are going to phase them out.

To do this, the locally created organizations will need to be end-dated, but before that is done, the DMHRSi Human Resources POC will need to have all of the people moved out of the local organizations.

We realize this is an inconvenience for the Human Resources POC, but it will make things easier in the long run because they won't have to change what is being fed from the source. Also, it will make for a cleaner Position Control Roster (PCR) because assignments will be tied to the TDA. Additionally, it will ensure the assigned FTE for MEPRS reporting is captured correctly.

The easiest way to identify employees with local organizations as their organization and/or group is via the Alpha Rosters in the Personnel Rosters folder of Discoverer Viewer. Once you've identified them, you will need to figure out where they need to be moved to.

Accomplishing this will take a coordinated effort between Manpower, Human Resources and MEPRS at the site.

ADJUSTING NURSING MAN-HOURS

MEPRS personnel are not to make changes to any nursing timecard data unless they have a written request to do so by the employee or the department. Nursing employees have expressed concern that their time and/or MEPRS codes they had entered on their DMHRSi timecards have been changed without their approval. MEDCOMs Nursing Staff has requested that the site MEPRS Staff do not change the time or MEPRS codes entered by the nursing employees unless there is a written request to do so. If the time has been entered incorrectly, site Nursing Staff will provide guidance.

AUTOMATED FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION

An email message has gone out to the sites showing the dates and times that training will be available on the new "automated" Financial Reconciliation model. If you are unable to attend, please contact Greg Mitchell to set up a session. Moving to the new model may require some adjustments in how and when you complete the Financial Reconciliation but, it will save time. Also, it will ensure all sites are balancing in the same way.

Once you have received the training, if you see something that you feel should be done in a different way or something that you are currently doing that we didn't include, please forward an email to Greg Mitchell and the Army MEPRS Functional Support. We will review all of the suggested modifications and if appropriate, incorporate them into the next version.

We realize that changing to the "automated" model may cause delays in completing the Financial Reconciliation for the processing month of October 2013. For the month of October only, if you are ready to transmit and you haven't received training on the new model, you can transmit prior to submitting the Financial Reconciliation. We must receive the completed and balanced Financial Reconciliation NLT 10 working days after transmission. If we receive it within 10 days of transmission you will receive credit for submitting it on time.

This exception is only for October 2013 processing. All future months require a balanced Financial Reconciliation to be submitted prior to transmission IAW AMPO guidance.



Question: Medical Home has been added to my site's TDA but the naming convention on the TDA does not match the naming convention on the medical home attachment 3; how is this handled in DMHRSi?

Answer: Once the medical home is added to the TDA, the local organization should no longer be used and end-dated. The Organization on the TDA should be used as the assigned organization of the employees assigned to the medical home and people group of the employees who work there, even if the naming convention does not match the attachment 3. The MEPRS office will need to work with Manpower to correct the naming convention on the TDA to match the standardized naming convention for medical homes.

No Hail or Farewells for the month of December

