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Hospital ranks 1st for outpatient, 3rd for inpatient Care

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital was ranked first in Outpatient Care efficiency within MEDCOM recently.

"We're providing better quality at lower cost," said Capt. Philip Kaberline, chief of Resource Management at General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital.

But Inpatient Care here, currently ranked third by the MEDCOM study, could change dramatically with the addition of the hospital's Electronic Intensive Care Unit, launched for the care of Inpatients here Jan. 8, 2014.

"That's what we're expecting," Kaberline said.

The state-of-the-art eICU brings additional board-certified doctors and critical care nurses right into Intensive Care rooms here, electronically.

High-definition video and secure, real-time monitoring of vital signs, medications, test results, X-rays and other diagnostic information provide second and third-opinion care here that is typically offered at much larger hospitals.

The eICU also allows patients and families to stay here rather than being transferred to distant hospitals.

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"Often times, if your family member is in the ICU, you stay with them," said Col. Marie Dominguez, hospital commander.

"Now, family members can go home at night, sleep in their own bed, and know that if something happens they can be back here in 10 minutes vs. a two-and-a-half hour drive to Saint Louis," Dominguez said.

Top Outpatient and Inpatient Care are also reflected in increasing enrollment numbers here, aside from the MEDCOM evaluation.

"TRICARE Prime enrollment has increased over the last 12 months, leaving only about half of the vacancies available that we had here a year ago," said John Ingersoll, hospital Clinical Operations supervisor.

"We have 250 more spaces available to enroll here in TRICARE (Plus)--and we want these folks back," Dominguez said.

"We strive to ensure that our enrollees and potential enrollees are cared for using the most up-to-date equipment and procedures," Ingersoll said, "so filling these TRICARE Plus and TRICARE Prime vacancies is our focus. More so, you should enroll because we provide the very best care available here."

Don't miss your opportunity to enroll. Watch the mail for an invitation from the hospital commander, a benefits flier, and an enrollment form with a self-addressed envelope. Fill out the enrollment form and drop it in the mail.

"Enrollment, or reenrollment, is easy," Ingersoll said, "and we're here to help. You can reach our Enrollment Support Team Hotline at (573) 596-0418/0727/0462 and we'll help you with the paperwork. If you're within 30 miles of the hospital, all you have to do is call TRICARE at (877) 988-9378," Ingersoll said.

"Closing this enrollment gap will allow us to retain, and continue to secure, our high standing in Army Medicine during this very-real era of the "use it or lose it" healthcare budget mindset," Ingersoll said.

Cashing in on our new capabilities and services is reserved for those enrolled.

"You can't win if you don't play," said Ingersoll. "So, enroll today." For more information, contact the General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital at (573) 596-0131, ext. 6-9632.

(Brooks is the marketing and public affairs officer at General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital.)

About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains 80-90,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army's largest Non Commissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.
