

31st MEDICAL GROUP



MISSION

The 31st Medical Group Supports the readiness of 31st Fighter Wing and associated units throughout the Southern Region. Ensures the health of its community by providing optimal customer-focused medical care from internal, DoD and Host Nation resources. Employs all medical resources and preventive initiatives to ensure the human weapons system remains mission ready to support the Expeditionary Air Force, United States and NATO objectives worldwide.

The 31st Dental Squadron provides all aspects of general dentistry in addition to the following specialties: orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, and periodontics. The 31st Medical Support Squadron supplies the full range of ancillary support activities. The 31st Aerospace Medicine Squadron provides care for flyers and their families and runs the occupational health program. The 31st Medical Operations Squadron provides both inpatient and outpatient adult and pediatric care, internal medicine, behavioral medicine, educational/developmental intervention services (EDIS) and general, orthopedic, obstetrics and gynecological surgical services.

LINEAGE

USAF Hospital, Homestead constituted, 22 Mar 1971

Activated, 1 Apr 1971

Redesignated, 31st Medical Group, 15 Mar 1987

Redesignated 31st Medical Squadron, 23 Mar 1994

Inactivated, 1 Apr 1994

Activated, 1 Apr 1994

Redesignated 31st Medical Group, 1 Sep 1994

STATIONS

Homestead AFB, FL, 1 Apr 1971-1 Apr 1994

Aviano AB, Italy, 1 Apr 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

31st Tactical Fighter (later, 31st Fighter) Wing, 1 Apr 1971-1 Apr 1994

31st Fighter Wing, 1 Apr 1994

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Kosovo: Air Campaign

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Apr 1994-1 Apr 1996

2 Apr 1996-1 Apr 1998

1 Oct 2000-1 Oct 2002

2 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004

1 Jun 2009-31 May 2011

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Murphy A. Chesney, Air Force Surgeon General, dedicated the new Air Force clinic building September 4, 1987, which served the 40th Tactical Support Wing until it was redesignated March 23, 1994. The 31st Medical Squadron became the 31st Medical Group September 1, 1994 as part of the Objective Medical Group realignment. Initially, the group consisted of two squadrons -- the 31st Medical Operations Squadron and the 31st Medical Support Squadron. In December 1997, the 31st Dental Squadron and the 31st Aerospace Medicine Squadron were activated.

Addressing the predominant "quality of life" concern of the expanding American community at Aviano, a first-of-its-kind joint-lease agreement was signed in August 1996 with the neighboring community of Sacile to lease two floors of their inpatient hospital. Massive renovations brought the leased wing to American regulatory standards. Milestones reached at Sacile since its inception include the opening of inpatient services in January 1997, the first surgery was performed in November 1997, and the first baby was delivered in December 1997.

In addition to the successful completion of the Sacile project, the 31st Medical Group has built and opened a state of the art health and wellness center, a new flight medicine clinic in area F, instituted primary care management teams with an "open access" model healthcare delivery, and developed an extensive TRICARE Network consisting of over 30 host nation providers and six local hospitals.

The latest accomplishment is the \$32.6 million NATO-funded hospital. Construction began in 2001, and Phase 1 of the NATO hospital concluded in the summer 2005 with the relocation of the Sacile inpatient and outpatient medical operations as well as existing ancillary and administrative services in Aviano AB's Area 1. Phase 2 of the NATO hospital transforms and integrates the existing Aviano AB Clinic in Area 1 with the new NATO. Phase 2 was completed July 2006.

31 Medical Group deployed to N'djamena, Chad, Africa to participate in Joint Medical Task Force Exercise, Medflag, 4-17 Sep 1997.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.