

The AFMS Pulse: Mental Health Awareness Month & New Updates

The AFMS recognizes mental health awareness, new policies & releases a new TLDR

AFMS leader retires after 31 years of service

- U.S. Air Force [Maj. Gen. Sean T. Collins](#), Air National Guard assistant to the Surgeon General and director of Space Force Medical Operations Directorate, [retired during a ceremony](#) at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C., May 1, 2026.

Mental Health Awareness Month

- AFMS selected four medical Airmen, recognized as Trusted Care Heroes in 2025, to highlight during Mental Health Awareness Month. [Read more.](#)
 - The Airmen demonstrated a commitment to people-centered care and fostering resilience across the DAF community.
 - Their recognition aligns with the [Trusted Care](#) vision, which drives a culture of meaningful leadership, safety, continuous process improvement, and patient-centeredness.
- AFMS launched a Spotlight on Mental Health video series.
 - The [first episode](#) features Col. Elisha Pippin, Air Force Director of Psychological Health.
 - Follow the AFMS [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [YouTube](#) account for additional episodes.

AFMEDCOM Update

- AFMEDCOM TLDR [episode four](#) is available on the [AFMS YouTube page](#). Chief Master Sgt. James Woods, Chief, Medical Enlisted Force and Enlisted Corps Chief, highlights the crucial role of enlisted medics in the AFMEDCOM structure.
- AFMEDCOM will initiate its fourth inter-command transfer tranche June 29, 2026.
 - Medical Airmen and units currently aligned under the Air Force Global Strike Command will transition to Medical Readiness Command-Alpha's 359th Medical Wing.
 - Approximately 1,500 medical Airmen from Barksdale, Dyess, Ellsworth, FE Warren, Kirtland, Malmstrom, Minot and Whiteman AFBs will transition. For more information.

USMEPCOM changes policy to increase efficiency in accessions

- Effective May 4, USMEPCOM halted its prescreen processing for applicants with any of 28 severe medical conditions, now an approved Service waiver is required *before* a MEPS physical is conducted.
- The policy identifies disqualifying conditions early to conserve medical resources, reduce waiver authority workload, and align with recent Department directives to maintain high readiness standards. [Read more.](#)

All-Medic Call

- Save the date. Lt. Gen. John DeGoes and Chief Master Sgt. James Woods will host a virtual All-Medic Call June 9 from 10 to 11 a.m. on MS Teams.
- Format: 30-minute operational update followed by a 30-minute live Q&A session.
- Additional information will follow.

Stay Connected

Latest AFMS news and updates are available at: <https://www.airforcemedicine.af.mil/News/>

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for daily updates, photos and stories.

Subscribe to the AFMS' [The Pulse Check](#) on LinkedIn for monthly updates on mission highlights and milestones.