

Military Medicine Partnership: Naval Challenges



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ONR Beginnings

Naval Research Laboratory

(Appropriations Act, 1916)

"[Conduct] exploratory and research work ... necessary ... for the benefit of Government service, including the construction, equipment, and operation of a laboratory...."





Office of Naval Research

(Public Law 588, 1946)

"... plan, foster, and encourage scientific research in recognition of its paramount importance as related to the maintenance of future naval power, and the preservation of national security...."

Sustained Support for Science & Technology



The Office of Naval Research

The S&T Provider for the Navy and Marine Corps







4,000+ People
23 Locations
\$2.1B / year
>1,000 Partners





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ONR is part of the NR&DE, Providing Full-Spectrum RDT&E





Naval S&T Focus Areas



Assure Access to the Maritime Battlespace

- Ocean/Atmospheric Sciences
- Underwater Acoustics
- Ocean Sensing



Platform Design and Survivability

- Air/Surface/Subsurface Vehicles
- Materials
- Corrosion / Biofouling
- Manufacturing Technologies

Autonomy and Unmanned Systems

- Robotics
- Machine Learning
- Perception
- Human Machine Interface



Power and Energy

- Renewable Energy
- Propulsion

Warfare

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- Power Control
- Thermal Management

Electromagnetic Maneuver

• EM Propagation & Waveforms

Sensors and Electronics

Optical Systems



Expeditionary and Irregular Warfare

- Situational Awareness
- Decision Making
- Mobility / Logistics
- Soldier Protection





Information Dominance / Cyber

- Communications / Information Technology
- Computer Science
- Mathematics /Data Analytics



Power Projection and Integrated Defense

- Directed Energy
- Energetic Materials



Warfighter Performance

- Biomedical / Bioengineeering
- Cognitive / Neural Sciences
- Training Technologies
- Force Health Protection

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"Over the horizon force projection with operational reach approaching 240 nautical miles (nm) will ... increase the risk of in-transit clinical degradation of severely wounded casualties." "The Naval Fleet and the Marine Corps lack the capability to safely transport...over the times and distances expected in Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare". (USMC ORD for The En Route Care System)





Current C4I systems do not provide operational and clinical situational awareness to nonmedical C4I systems, and patient movement and personnel tracking systems do not interact and are labor-intensive. (NAVY WARFARE DEVELOPMENT COMMAND (NWDC) TACMEMO 4-02.2-14)





Due to remoteness of military operations, patient holding times may range from between 6 to 72 hours before transport to a medical center is possible







"Unlike in the US and other developed countries, medical care in military operations or in disaster relief efforts involves **long times and distances** before the casualty arrives at to advanced medical care."

Casualty Evacuation Is a Complicated Bi-directional Information Network



Enroute Critical Care System

 Patient status communication between Distributed Navy and Marine Operations ashore and the Seabase

• Constant patient monitoring and treatment during movement of patients during ship to ship, shore to ship and during En route Care flight transfers

 Reduces effects from the "Tyranny of Distance" as we move from CENTCOM to AFRICOM and PACOM Areas of Responsibilities

Patient tracking is not just about moving people, it is about knowing what a person needs so you can make a decision about a person in a quick and organized way. (A MODEL FOR NATIONWIDE PATIENT TRACKING, 2009)

Pivot to the Pacific: A Bigger Place to Maneuver

Pacific Ocean (155,557,000 sq km) Atlantic Ocean (76,762,000 sq km)

The Continents and Greenland in the Pacific Ocean



Basemap Projection: Robinson Continents & Greenland Projection: Fuller

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Map Credit: Chris Stephens

Data Source: NaturalEarthData.com





Medical Transportation Then.....





Medical Transportation Now.....



The Future Transport: CASEVAC by UAV/UGV/USV

"Due to evolution of future Seabasing, ability to support Ship-to-Objective Maneuver (STOM), and establishment of Enhanced Company Operations (ECO), the Corps requires... unmanned platforms" (USMC UNS for UAS)



The ACCS is an essential enabler of CASEVAC by unmanned platforms

Today's Ships Challenge Patient Movement onboard



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Medical Space Unique Challenges onboard Naval Platforms







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A Sample of Guiding Documents





Navy Diving "State of the Art"







Undersea Medicine National Naval Responsibility



Biometric Monitoring desired because of the extreme environment

- Need for a breathing apparatus
- Hyperbaric pressure
- Thermal stress
- Dark with limited means of communication

Start with basic physiological measurements

- Respiration rate
- Heart rate/variability
- Core temperature

<u>Technical challenge</u>

- Seawater and sensors/electronics don't mix
- Can't use wireless





Challenges of Blast / High Energy Events

















MEMS Sensors for BLAST

MEMS: Micro-Electromechanical Systems



- Objective
 - To design and demonstrate minimally powered (or un-powered) inertial and pressure sensors to detect and quantify blast loads capable of inflicting mTBI.
- Proposed solution
 - Develop threshold MEMS sensors with mechanical switch closures to indicate blast exposure
 - Momentary contact for minimally powered version
 - Latching switch for unpowered version
- Status
 - Conducting laboratory testing of sensors and electronics
 - Tactical prototype expected Q4 FY16

Technical Gap

- Current sensors require power to operate
 - Battery life causes service life limitation
 - Larger batteries become too bulky
- Commercial sensor approach requires data reduction
 - While detailed data is good for blast wave analysis, it may be burdensome when a quick yes/no exposure is desired





Structural Health Monitoring for Health: Multidisciplinary Field

• What is SHMH?

Structural Health Monitoring is the process of developing a damage assessment capability for aerospace, civil and mechanical infrastructure





Enabling vision: Body Area Networks

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Altitude-Induced Hypoxemia



- > 20% personnel suffered altitude illness during Op Anaconda
- Half of Afghanistan is over 2000m, with an average elevation of 4500m, resulting in mild- to lifethreatening altitude sickness in un-acclimatized Warfighters.
- ➢ US Security Analysis: > 60 world-wide high altitude areas for possible military engagement
- > HAPE/HACE may reach as high as 15%, and one incident can compromise an entire unit.
- Current treatments are a logistical burden and have side-effects. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A. Approved for public release.



Altitude exposure impairs Warfighter health and performance

HYPOXIA - lack of oxygen to tissue

Oxygen deprivation

Neurological side effects Anxiety / Euphoria Confusion Impaired Judgment / Memory Dizziness Fatigue Headache Hot/Cold Flash Difficulty Communicating Loss of Muscle Coordination Numbness Visual Impairment Loss of Peripheral Vision Loss of Consciousness



How to measure or predict hypoxia?



Signs and Symptoms are similar for other physiologic events, such as A-LOC, G-LOC, SD



Printed 3D Flexible Electronics: DoD Relevance



Mission specific devices on-demand

Bio-electronic implants and interfaces





Structure health monitoring

Areas of

Implementation

Reconfigurable autonomous systems





Smart skins & wearable electronics



Tracking, tagging & locating

Tunable treatments for low observables



Printed 3D flexible electronics will enable a new generation of systems capable of sensing, actuating, recording, processing and communicating with their surroundings in ways unfeasible today.



A Solution - Automated Critical Care System Mobile Casualty Monitoring and Care

Automated Critical Care System (ACCS)



The ICU in a Suitcase Treating multiple systems in a single patient

Monitoring Capabilities

- IV Fluid input
- SPO2
- Non Invasive Blood Pressure
- Cardiac Output
- Ventilation to include Volume, Rate Pressure (PEEP)

Therapeutics

- Mechanical Ventilation
- Supplemental Oxygen
- Physiological Monitoring
- Casualty and Fluid Warming
- Analgesia / Sedation Therapy
- Fluid and Drug Infusion

Therapeutic interventions: Open loop or human in the loop Semi-closed or human on the loop <u>Closed Loop or human supervising the loop</u>

The more technologies that have to simultaneously work together increases the difficulty

Challenges: Hardware Issues:



- Autonomous Transport Platform Development
- Battery Technology
- Lightweight Oxygen Generation

Telemedicine issues

- Data prioritization / Metering
- Bi-directional Communications
- Cybersecurity Protection from nefarious acts
- Data Presentation Easily Understood

Casualty Monitoring and Therapeutic Care





Example of Technology Desires

Hardware

- Lighter / More Power / Faster Charging Battery Technology
- Lightweight Single man Oxygen Generation
- Sensor / Hardware Interoperability
- Hypoxia monitoring / Prediction / Resilience to extreme environments

Telemedicine issues

- Data prioritization / Metering
- Bi-directional Communications
- Cybersecurity Protection from nefarious acts
- Big Data Presentation Easily Understood



Questions??



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