



Hospital Corpsman (HM)

Hospital Corpsmen perform duties as assistants in the prevention and treatment of disease and injury and assist health care professionals in providing medical care to Naval personnel and their families. They may function as clinical or specialty technicians, medical administrative personnel and health care providers at medical treatment facilities. They also serve as battlefield corpsmen with the Marine Corps, rendering emergency medical treatment to include initial treatment in a combat environment.

Qualified Hospital Corpsmen may be assigned the responsibility of independent duty aboard ships and submarines; Fleet Marine Force, Special Forces and Seabee units, and at isolated duty stations where no medical officer is available.

This is a five-year program.

HMDA - Dental Assistant

Perform duties as a general dental assistant to include dental infection control, dental treatment room management, preventive dentistry, comprehensive dental assisting, and intraoral radiography.

What They Do

The duties performed by HMs include: assisting in prevention and treatment of disease and injuries; caring for sick and injured ;administering immunization programs; rendering emergency medical treatment; instructing sailors and marines in first aid, self aid and personal hygiene procedures; transporting the sick and injured; conducting preliminary physical examinations; performing medical administrative, supply and accounting procedures; maintaining treatment records and reports; supervising shipboard and field environmental sanitation and preventive medicine programs; supervising air, water, food and habitability standards.

Qualified technicians:

Perform clinical laboratory tests and operate sophisticated laboratory equipment; take and process X-rays and operate X-ray equipment; fill prescriptions, maintain pharmacy stock; serve as operating room technicians for general and specialized surgery; do preventive maintenance and repairs on biomedical equipment, including

Career Path After Recruit Training

Enlistees are taught the fundamentals of this rating through formal Navy schooling. Advanced technical and operational training in these ratings are available during later stages of career development.

School	Present Location	Approximate Training Time	Subjects	Training Methods
Hospital Corps Class "A" School,	Fort Sam Houston, TX	19 Weeks	Basic principles and techniques of patient care and first aid procedures	Group and modular instruction

After completion of "A" school, Hospital Corpsmen are assigned to Navy medical treatment facilities or operational Navy or Fleet Marine Force units. Follow on assignment varies, based on initial tour, but may include Dental strand or other Advanced Technical training "C" school, overseas assignment or a normal sea or shore tour. Women are assigned to most ships and field medical support units of the FMF. Women are not assigned to submarines, with the SEALs, or some units of the FMF. En route to their first permanent duty stations, most male HMs will be assigned to either Field Medical Service School, Camp Lejeune NC, or Camp Pendleton CA, for specialized training in the knowledge and skills required to perform medical services in the field with the Marine Corps and/or the "Seabees." During a 20-year career in the Navy, HMs spend about 40 percent of their time assigned to fleet or FMF units and 60 percent to other types of duty.

kidney dialysis machines, radiation monitors, hearing and vision testing machinery, heart and lung test apparatus, ultrasound, nuclear medicine and CT scan equipment.

Credit Recommendations

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the vocational certificate or lower division bachelor's / associates degree categories for completed in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), advanced first aid, nursing techniques, health and hygiene, medical terminology and clinical technologies while attending (A) and (C) schools.

Qualifications and Interests

A sincere interest in providing general health care is extremely important for this rating. People in the HM rating must relate well to other people and work well as a part of a team. It is important that candidates have good communication skills, writing and arithmetic ability, manual dexterity, dependability, trustworthiness, a good memory, resourcefulness and backgrounds or interests in the sciences. Other important qualifications are competence with tools, equipment/machines, physical stamina and the ability to do repetitive tasks without losing interest. Any illegal involvement with drugs may be disqualifying.

Working Environment

Hospital Corpsmen work in a variety of environments. Most HMs work indoors at hospitals or clinics. Others work aboard ships and submarines; with air squadrons, special operational environments (i.e., SEAL, Recon Forces, Seabee units and Deep-sea Diving).

Duties are service oriented, repetitive and require good judgment and mental alertness. HM's may work alone or with supervision by other health professionals, depending on the assignment.

Opportunities

Current Opportunities for placement in the HM rating are good for qualified applicants. About 24,500 men and women serve as hospital corpsmen and 45% of them have received further training in one of 35 specialties leading to specialization in numerous health care technologies.

Civilian, Federal, and Military Sealift Command Related Occupations

To see Related Civilian, Federal, and Military Sealift Command Occupations for this rating:

HM

<https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/enlisted/hm.htm>

Navy LaDR (Learning and Development Roadmap)



To see the Navy LaDR (Learning and Development Roadmap for this rating:

HM

https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/LaDR/hm_e1_e9.pdf

College Credits for this Rating

To see the college credits available via a Joint Service Transcript for this rating

HM

https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/jst/hm_jst.pdf

Additional Information

For more information on opportunities available for this rating, please visit Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL)

HM

<https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/enlisted/hm.htm>

Since Navy programs and courses are revised at times, the information contained on this rating card is subject to change.

(Revised 02/16)