Fleet Surgical Team TWO (FST-2)

As part of a Fleet Surgical Team, the Internal Medicine physician joins a group that is composed of approximately fifteen to eighteen health care providers. This group includes an Officer in Charge, a Surgeon, a CCRN, an OR Nurse, an administrative officer, and various number of corpsmen with radiology, OR, and general duty skills. There are nine teams in the Navy with four teams on each of the coasts and one stationed in Japan. The primary role of the FST is to augment the amphibious ready groups with surgical and critical care capability as they transport Marines and their equipment to their various missions. Traditionally, this would involve the FST integrating with the medical department onboard a large deck amphibious assault ship, with two smaller transport ships in tow, each with a GMO onboard to complete the amphibious ready group. Though there are minor variations to this theme, the practical role of the internist involves overseeing the medical readiness of the ships’ crew during workups prior to deployment and then serving in both a clinical as well as an administrative role while underway.

FST-2 Facts

Unit Crest:

Chain of Command:
Commanding Officer: Cmdr. David A. Stracener, USN
Executive Officer: Cmdr. Peter M. Mantz, USN
CMC: CMDCM Linda B. Dennehy, USN

Command Mission:
The Dragon Whales’ mission is critical to the U.S. Navy’s capability of deploying and remaining on station for months at a time. At sea, HC-28 performs vital vertical replenishment (VERTREP); crucial passenger, mail, and internal cargo transport; and continuous search and rescue.