



# Press Release

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## **Fleet Surgeon Provides “Pulse Check” at Medical All Hands Call**

NORFOLK, Va. -- Without a proper working engine and fuel, a car cannot run. Without proper care and nutrition, a human body cannot survive. Similarly, the Navy cannot operate with ships and aircraft alone.

Nothing works without the Sailors, and the Sailors can't accomplish the mission without maintaining health readiness.

That's the top priority for U.S. Fleet Forces Fleet Surgeon Capt. Bruce L. Gillingham and his fleet medical team, who held a medical All Hands Call June 24 aboard Naval Station Norfolk, to discuss possibilities for health care process improvements in the fleet.

Gillingham said the work of independent duty corpsmen, general medical officers and Navy healthcare professionals has led to medical readiness that is consistently above 90 percent.

“I am always anxious to get in front of folks, and I just want to say thank you for all the hard work and consistency,” said Gillingham. He also said there is always room for improvement.

“Fleet Forces hopes to provide guidance consistent with Adm. [Bill] Gortney's [the commander of USFF] lines of operation, intent, mission and vision,” said Gillingham. “Adm. Gortney made it very clear when he came in that readiness was our most important mission, and I'm doing my best to share that with the fleet and streamline how we can go about accomplishing it, maintaining it and improving it.”

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) Luke M. Stone, stationed aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), said the forum opened lines of communication and allowed the group to identify common concerns and to pinpoint areas that may require additional attention.

“The purpose of today was to not only give the fleet information on what we're doing to support them, but to get feedback from them on the problems they experience on a daily basis,” said Chief Hospital Corpsman Amanda L. Gentry, U.S. Fleet Forces independent duty corpsman. “This helps us get their personal perceptions of their problems opposed to us having our own perceptions of their problems.”

“This was a great pulse check for everyone to realize where the work needs to be done,” said Stone.