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Around the Globe

***Essentris*[®] Supports Preparations in Japan**

To support contingency operations for our service members, retirees, civilians and family members during the recent natural disaster in Japan, the Defense Health Information Management System developed a plan to use its inpatient electronic medical record, *Essentris*[®], to quickly and securely transfer electronic medical records if the Military Treatment Facilities in Misawa, Yokosuka, Yokota and Okinawa needed to transfer all inpatients to other hospitals. Fortunately, the situation did not require movement of patients, but the quick development of the plan, demonstrated the flexibility and cooperation among the partners in health.

On March 18th, DHIMS leadership received the alert that all four MTFs might have to quickly move their patients and the inpatient health care data would need to be transferred immediately to Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. DHIMS partnered with the inpatient system vendor for *Essentris*[®] and the leadership at Tripler, briefed the MHS on a "way-forward plan," prepared a contingency plan for each of the sites, and demonstrated the successful transfer of patient data to TAMC within hours. DHIMS and its partners demonstrated their commitment to delivering a world class electronic health record for Total Force.

COL DaCosta "Dee" Barrow, DHIMS Program Manager, was "extraordinarily proud of the rapid response which demonstrated the Department's ability to plan for and maintain optimum patient care during a planned evacuation."