

## 55 MEDICAL GROUP



### **MISSION**

The 55<sup>th</sup> Medical Group mission is active management of care and optimization of access across the healthcare continuum to ensure a fit, ready force and healthy population. Commitment to expeditionary medical operations and operational support to Team Offutt.

The Med Group team is made up of 750 members. 430 team members are medics that are deployment-ready and support all the current operations. The MDG operates ACC's only Personnel Reliability Program (PRP) clinic supporting 1K members across the 55th Wing, USSTRATCOM and Global Strike Command ensuring NC2 fidelity and the ISR mission. The Mental Health Department collaborates with Team Offutt and our community partners to reduce the incidence of suicide, maltreatment, alcohol/drug misuse and provide wounded warrior support.

The 750 medical group members provide health care to more than 48K DoD beneficiaries. This care includes: 220K annual medical and dental appointments, 330K annual prescriptions, 127K labs and 43K diagnostic images. The group also provides the post graduate education and training of more than 150 medical and dental personnel annually. The unit advises the 55th Wing on medical, environmental, public health and readiness issues impacting 55th Wing assets and Team Offutt's 50 partner units.

### **LINEAGE**

55 Station Medical Group constituted, 29 Jun 1948  
Activated, 19 Jul 1948  
Redesignated 55 Medical Group, 1 Apr 1949  
Inactivated, 14 Oct 1949  
Activated, 1 Nov 1950  
Redesignated 55 Medical Squadron, 10 Feb 1951

Redesignated 55 Medical Group, 14 Feb 1952  
Redesignated 55 Tactical Hospital, 15 Feb 1954  
Inactivated, 1 Nov 1958

865 Medical Group constituted, 5 Jun 1955  
Activated, 1 Jul 1959  
Redesignated Ehrling Bergquist USAF Hospital, 15 Jul 1966  
Redesignated Ehrling Bergquist USAF Regional Hospital, 2 Jul 1969  
Redesignated Ehrling Bergquist Strategic Hospital, 15 Oct 1987  
Redesignated Ehrling Bergquist Hospital, 1 Jun 1992

55 Tactical Hospital and Ehrling Bergquist Hospital consolidated, 30 Sep 1993. Consolidated organization designated 55 Medical Group, 1 Oct 1993

### **STATIONS**

Topeka (later, Forbes) AFB, KS, 19 Jul 1948-14 Oct 1949  
Ramey AFB, PR, 1 Nov 1950  
Forbes AFB, KS, 5 Oct 1952-1 Nov 1958  
Offutt AFB, NE, 1 Jul 1959

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

55 Wing

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Stephen Mounts

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award  
Jul 1956-Nov 1957  
1 Jul 1966-30 Jun 1967  
1 Jul 1970-30 Jun 1972  
1 Jul 1973-30 Jun 1975  
1 Jul 1987-30 Jun 1989  
1 Jul 1989-30 Jun 1991  
1 Aug 1993-31 Jul 1995

### **EMBLEM**



865 Medical Group emblem



## MOTTO

## OPERATIONS

Colonel Ehrling Bergquist was a former Command Surgeon of SAC who lost his life in an airplane crash near Offutt in 1949.

With the end of the draft in 1973, there was a shortage of physicians at Offutt AFB and, to satisfy the need for competent medical care to military members and their dependents, the base hospital adopted the use of physician assistants and dental assistants. The specially trained enlisted assistants, along with more highly trained nurses and clinicians performed many of the routine medical tasks previously accomplished only by one of the professionals. And even more progressive in the eyes of some, the commander of the E B USAF Regional Hospital recommended to HQ SAC that the Air Force contract with civilian physicians to fill the positions in the emergency and acute illness sections, thereby alleviating the already heavy workload of the military doctors so they could work more in their areas of specialization. This plan would allow the patients to benefit from the specialized knowledge of the physicians and would hopefully result in a higher level of morale for the overworked doctors. But, even with the new "physician extenders" and the plan for future care,

medical treatment for many retired members in the nearby communities had to be curtailed because of the doctor shortage.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources  
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.